

Fire fighters board rig as 15-mile oil slick changes course

Firefighters yesterday boarded the Bravo oil platform in the North Sea and found the structure undamaged. The well was still gushing oil into the sea feeding an oil slick 15 miles long and up to three miles wide. A barge will be

brought alongside to provide the base for capping the well. It could take two days to complete the operation; an executive said he believed it would be successful. The whole Ekofisk field has been ordered shut down because of the fire hazard.

Norway halts production because of fire risk

Roger Veltrop
By Correspondent
A giant oil platform was yesterday being manoeuvred into the sea by a 15-mile oil slick to get alongside the stricken Bravo oil production platform and provide the base for the first attempt to cap the well that has been gushing up to 4,000 tons of oil into the sea since Friday.

As soon as the vessel is alongside the platform, a large crane will be used to lift the wellhead from the Red Admiral fighting team from Africa will attempt to cap the well.

Britain is ready to act, says Mr Benn

Martin Huckerby
The oil slick from the damaged Ekofisk rig is now being led by the British coast, Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday on his return from a visit to Norway.

Nevertheless he believed that Britain had sufficient chemical resources available to deal with the slick. The spray equipment is standing by. After his two-hour meeting with Norwegian ministers in Oslo, Mr Benn made it clear at responsibility for overseeing the fight against the oil slick. However, the slick is within 10 miles of the British sector of the North Sea and if it moves far enough west, then Britain will take over responsibility.

helicopter to inspect the damage. They discovered the blow-out had not damaged the structure of the steel platform and after receiving their report Mr Benn said: "I believe now that the capping will be successful."

Before work can begin equipment must be loaded from the pipe barge Chocoma to the platform to enable the team to clean up the area around the well. The barge will provide the operation with power since the generators on the Bravo platform have been shut down since the blow-out on Friday. According to Phillips it could take up to two days to complete the capping operation, particularly if weather conditions deteriorate.

Meanwhile the Norwegian Government has ordered Phillips, the American based oil company responsible for the development and operation of the Ekofisk oilfield, to shut down all oil production activities. This will mean a temporary halt to the delivery of oil into the Teesside terminal through a 200-mile long pipeline.

The order to shut down the whole field, capable of providing the equivalent of one sixth of Britain's oil requirements, was taken because the gusher of oil, mud and gas was being blown by the wind into the vicinity of other platforms in the area and producing a serious fire hazard. The oil slick produced by the blow-out is now 15 miles long and between two and three miles wide. It started to drift towards the Norwegian coast, but a change in the wind has driven much of the oil back towards the platform. Phillips said the huge floating pool of

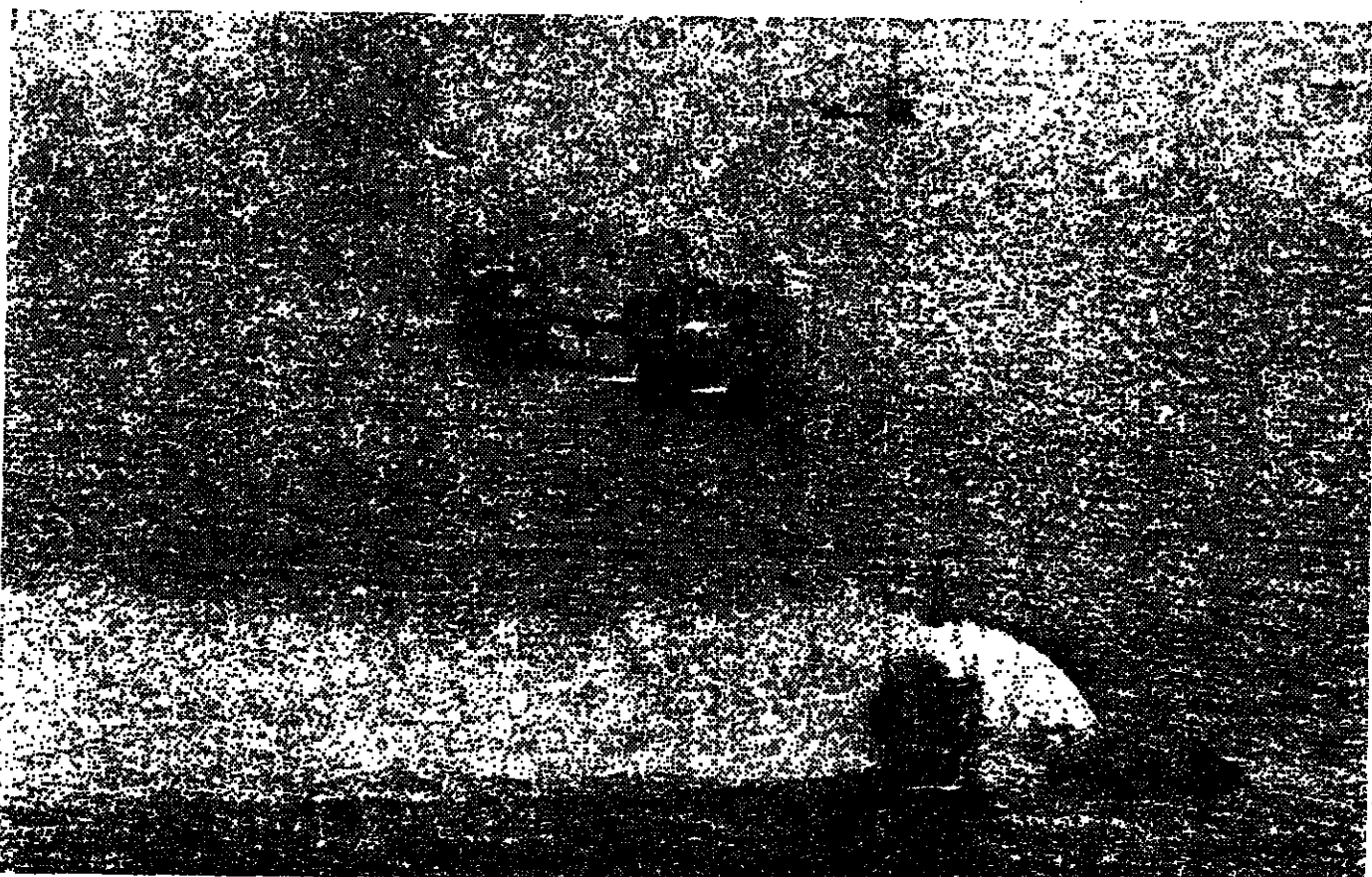
oil is now moving southwards very slowly. A decision not to use chemicals to disperse the slick has been taken by the Norwegian Government because of concern about the effect of such action on marine life. Instead an attempt will be made to contain the slick with long booms. A fleet of skimmers is steaming from Stavanger to suck up the oil and transfer it to waiting tankers.

About three kilometres of boom should be around the slick by this morning and the skimmers should be able to remove about 1,000 tons of oil a day. If the weather does not deteriorate, Phillips said the flow is stopped within the next two days and bad weather does not break up the slick, the skimmers could clean up the spill within 10 days, Phillips said yesterday.

Three boats from Aberdeen loaded with chemicals that form part of Britain's coastal clean-up fleet are standing by near the disaster area and will be brought into use if the Norwegian decision that the slicker cannot contain the slick. A further six vessels are standing by in the Shetlands to move into Norwegian waters if requested.

A fire-fighting boat, the Seaway Falcon, has been pouring water over the rig since Friday night and another vessel from the British sector, British Petroleum's Forth Kiwi, is also standing by.

If the attempt to cap the well fails Phillips may have to consider drilling another well in the area to relieve the pressure. This could take up to six weeks and oil would continue to spill into the sea while it was being drilled.



Ekofisk Bravo is kept doused by powerful water jets as the oil slick spreads away from the rig. The two burners of excess gas on the central rig have since been extinguished to prevent the danger of igniting clouds of gas from the blown well.

and thus could do more harm to fish. Mr Benn left Northolt airfield yesterday morning in a RAF Andover, and flew over the Ekofisk field for about 30 minutes, taking his own cine film of the oil gushing from the rig.

In Oslo he spent two hours with Mr Knut Frydenlund, the Norwegian Foreign Minister, and Mr Bjartmar Gjerde, the Minister for Industry. He offered British help for use in tackling the oil slick in the Norwegian sector, but no decision has apparently yet been taken over this.

Mr Benn said they had looked at every possible circumstance arising from the blow-out and had agreed on procedures for cooperation. Mr Benn added that they were discussing exactly this problem when he was in Oslo 10 days ago.

The problems of international cooperation are considerable because the Ekofisk field is within 50 miles of the North Sea sectors of not only Britain but also Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands.

He did not believe that they were ill-prepared for an incident of such magnitude, but he was unwilling to comment in detail on suggestions from Mr "Red" Adair, that essential equipment for tackling blow-outs was lacking in the North Sea.

However, referring to the emergency procedures, Mr Benn said: "In the light of this experience we shall have to look at it all again, and see if there are things to be done."

The cost of the blow-out could already be £20m and the oil company is already losing £2.5m worth of oil a day. Mr Eldon Griffiths, the

former Conservative junior minister at the Department of the Environment, said yesterday it was incumbent on governments to ensure that there were means to deal with such incidents.

The nations of the North Atlantic needed a monitoring scheme and to be equipped with the necessary vessels and aircraft to be mobilized as a matter of urgency. He hoped the countries bordering the North Sea would come to some agreement to cope with spillages. Safety valve "fault" East Coast alert, Texaco "scare-mongering", Page 4

Millions urged to join march after more arrests in Pakistan

From Richard Wigg
Rawalpindi, April 24
Rising within hours to the early morning arrest of more of its leaders, the opposition Pakistan National Alliance today called for a "long march" on the Prime Minister's house in Islamabad, the capital.

The call was issued by a newly constituted PNA leadership after the Government of Mr Bhutto had detained about 40 more of the movement's officials.

Among those arrested were Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, the acting chairman, and Mr Wazir Ali, the acting secretary-general, who last evening got out a statement denouncing the Government's recourse to martial law in Karachi, Hyderabad and Lahore as "high treason" and as a conspiracy against the armed forces and the people.

Besides the three cities under martial law, three other big towns are now also under a curfew.

The march, in which the organizers hope two million people will take part, is intended to reach Islamabad by next Saturday.

In another measure to damp down the opposition campaign against Mr Bhutto, the Government yesterday imposed censorship on the press. A government order forbids any editor or printer to publish any matter, including photographs or sketches, relating directly or indirectly to the PNA "agitation".

The question this coming week is whether the Army's tactics of not flinching from bloodshed to enforce martial law provisions at the request of the Bhutto Government can somehow restore normal conditions.

Pakistan television claimed today that Karachi port was working normally after a military order to dock workers and agents that they must report to normal clearance operations. Here, too, the test comes during this week.

All workers in essential services have been told over the weekend that they must report to work and those found inciting them to do otherwise have been threatened with summary court martial with penalties ranging from five years to the death sentence.

In Lahore, trade unions which spearheaded the earlier strikes, were have been told by the Army authorities they must cause all union activities forthwith.

The Army is thus engaged in a battle, where its "weapons" are limited. Enforcing a curfew, punctuated by only short breaks as at present, is disrupting trade in the cities affected and causing shortages.

Having played the card of Army intervention, Mr Bhutto himself faces a test with a time limit. The issue is whether the Army, in discharging its law and order function, slips into power throughout the country or whether the Prime Minister beforehand can see the chance to send the Army back to the barracks.

The opposition intends to try to send delegations to General Ziaul Haq, the Army Chief of Staff, and to the three military administrators of the cities under martial law to appeal against the Army's intervention in favour of the "usurper" regime, as the opposition has repeatedly called Mr Bhutto's government since the disputed general election of March 7.

General Haq was appointed last year by Mr Bhutto. His was one of several promotions which the Prime Minister was able to put through in reorganizing the Army after the Bangladesh debacle of 1971.

The second "strong man", General Tikka Khan, who has been vilified as "the butcher of Bangladesh" and is now head of national security, has just been given a People's Party seat as a senator and is expected to become Defence Minister.

The thinking at the top of the Army hierarchy, it appears, is that the Army should come to the aid of the civilian government. If it does not flinch, the crisis may be swiftly overcome. To have pushed Mr Bhutto to resign, in this view, would have aided a "civilian coup d'état".



Mr Simon Jenkins: "Extraordinary loyalty of readers."

Cultural gap warning on paper merger

By David Walker

Disappearance of the *Evening Standard* would leave a yawning gap in the political and cultural life of London, Mr Simon Jenkins, the editor, said yesterday. There was a large amount of high-income advertising available and the sophisticated leisure interests of his newspaper's one million readers would not be covered.

Commenting on reports that his newspaper's title is to be sold by the Beaverbrook group to Associated Newspapers and that the *Evening Standard* and the *Evening News* are to merge, Mr Jenkins summarized his paper's distinctiveness.

"Over the past 10 years it has managed to work its way under the skin of the capital in a way no paper has ever managed before. Over the past few days I have been continually rung up by people saying the *Evening Standard* cannot go."

He added that the *Standard* and the *News* aimed at completely different markets. The thousands of one were the West End and north London, its readers middle-class and active leisure seekers. The *News* was the working-class London paper. Mr Jenkins, aged 34, became editor of the newspaper five months ago in succession to Mr Charles Wintour, now an executive of Beaverbrook Newspapers.

Continued on page 2 col 1

Chancellor urges unions to seek pay rises of under 10 per cent

By Michael Hatfield and Christopher Thomas

While Mr Callaghan and other senior Cabinet ministers have been privately informing trade union leaders that the Government's objective of a single percentage figure for both inflation and price rises.

But in London ministerial sources rejected a suggestion, implied in a speech on Saturday by Dr Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, that the Government had a figure in mind.

Dr Owen told Castleford Trades and Labour Club that Britain needed a third round of the social contract, keeping the rise in average earnings down to about 8 or 9 per cent.

test of the ability of free trade unionism and democratic socialism to meet the challenge of the modern world."

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higher than was forecast when it was introduced.

Mr Healey told the Uxbridge conference that he had forecast in his Budget speech last month that the Government would get inflation down to about 13 per cent in the last quarter of 1977 and into single figures in the second quarter of next year.

He said: "That forecast was based on the assumption that the increase in the nation's earnings does not rise into double figures in the next 12 months. To the extent that they do, the date at which we get inflation into single figures would be delayed."

The fear of ministers, now well understood by union leaders, is that failure to reach a successful conclusion on another round of pay policy would lead to greater inflation and even higher unemployment because the Government is constrained by its obligations to

Continued on page 2, col 1

Shell expected to put 3p on petrol prices

Petrol prices at the pump are expected to go up by 3p a gallon today. The Shell group announced that another round of increases in the price of all oil products will be followed by Esso and British Petroleum later in the week. The Shell application for a 2.5p a gallon across the board rise—based on higher crude oil import costs—was accepted by the Price Commission at the end of last week.



Rhodesia's demand: The nationalist guerrillas must ease up on their war in Rhodesia before any constitutional settlement talks could begin again, the Rhodesian Foreign Minister, Mr Peter van der Byl (above), said in an interview with *The Times*. He warned Britain and the United States that "trying to turn the screws tighter" would spell failure for the current peace initiative launched by Dr Owen, the British Foreign Secretary. He complained about "witch hunts" in the West over sanctions busting, and said this could lead to a backlash that "nobody will be able to contain".

Airways claims some return at Heathrow

British Airways said that some engineering workers on strike at Heathrow had returned to work; nearly three quarters of the European flights affected by the strike were operating. An early end to the strike, however, is not in sight and the union will be recommended to make it official.

EEC price review

Britain faces intense pressure from its EEC partners this week to agree to raise food and farm prices. The ministers meet in Luxembourg today after failing last month to agree on this year's farm price review. Eight of the Nine agreed to accept compromise suggestions but Britain refused because of the effect on the cost of living.

Geoffrey Bing dies

Mr Geoffrey Bing, QC, the former Labour MP for Hornchurch, Essex, has died at his London home aged 67. When he lost his seat in 1955 he went to Ghana and became constitutional adviser to President Nkrumah and later Attorney General until the regime was overthrown.

British editor freed

Mr Robert Cox, British editor of the *Buenos Aires Herald*, has been released by Argentine police after being detained for 24 hours. He has been told he will stand trial for publishing a report of a press conference in Rome held by Argentine guerrillas.

Eban account inquiry

Israel is investigating the legality under its currency regulations of a bank account held in New York by Mr Abba Eban, the Foreign Minister. This weekend Mr Rabin, the Prime Minister, stepped down, admitting to holding dollars in America. But Mr Eban says he has permission from the Finance Ministry.

Church taken over

Some 400 Roman Catholic traditionalists took over a church in Lille and heard two impromptu Latin Masses. Other traditionalists who are occupying a church in Paris Archdiocese of Paris, of the use of another church.

Letters: On conserving energy sources, from Mr Peter Rost, MP, and others; new sources for electricity, from Mr Kenneth Barton and Mr David James, MP; the Portuguese balance sheet, pages 12 and 16; Eric Moonman puts the case for training courses for government ministers; Melvyn Westlake on the North-South dialogue; Ronald Faux looks behind the strike of Aberdeen helicopter pilots.

Cairo to seek British peace-making role

Egypt is expected to seek a bigger British role in Middle East peace-making in talks with Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, who arrives in Cairo today. Egypt is attaching growing importance to EEC involvement in the Middle East and has already suggested that Britain, France and West Germany should attend the Geneva peace talks.

Strasbourg polls: The Cabinet will not decide which voting system it prefers for direct elections to Europe until after tonight's Commons debate. 2
Nairobi: Tanzania presses Kenya for return of ships and aircraft belonging to East African Community corporations. 5
Panama: A three-page Special Report on a country at the crossroads of the Americas. 13-15

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Prince bases silver jubilee appeal on social service

By Penny Symon

The Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal for money for projects to encourage service to the community by young people was officially launched in television and radio broadcasts by the Prince of Wales yesterday.

A jubilee, the Prince said, was first and foremost an opportunity for celebration, for street parties, bonfires and fireworks, and for souvenirs like mugs and T-shirts which seemed to appear everywhere.

"But in the midst of all the celebration I felt that it would be marvellous if there was some permanent way in which we could mark the 25 years of service which the Queen has given to the country and the Commonwealth. So I asked my mother what she would like us to do. After careful consideration she said she would be particularly pleased if money could be raised principally to assist and encourage the outstanding work already being done by young people in various fields."

"The new Silver Jubilee Trust, which I am asking you to help me set up, will use its money, quite simply, to help young people to help others. Already there is a lot of excellent work being done in this country and abroad by young people, but too little is heard of the positive contribution they make, since I suspect it is not always considered 'newsworthy'."

He said that he would like to encourage work in hospitals and homes, help for the elderly and the lonely, for the disabled or mentally handicapped, for deprived and sick children, work to improve the local environment, rescue services, educational projects and other forms of leadership training.

"I also want to encourage the development of new groups of young people with their own ideas of what they would like to do within their local communities who otherwise could not put their ideas into practice because of lack of resources."

Response: The Drapers' Company is sending £25,000 to the Lord Mayor of London today in response to the Prince's appeal. (The Press Association reports).

Text of speech, page 18

Rugby League player dies during game

Chris Sanderson, the Leeds half-back, aged 23, was injured in the Rugby League first division game at Salford yesterday, and died later in hospital.

He was carried off in the eighth minute after going down away from the play, when two players appeared to collide, and when it was learnt that he had died Mr A. W. Allen, the York referee, abandoned the game at half time, with Leeds leading 5-2.

Kuwait decides to support Ethiopia rebels

Kuwait April 24.—Kuwait has decided to support Eritrean secessionists in Ethiopia, providing food and medical supplies, it was announced after the weekly Cabinet meeting. No details were given.

Khartoum: Eritrean secessionists shot down three Ethiopian aircraft on Friday as they tried to carry supplies to troops besieged near Tessenet, about 20 miles from the Sudanese border with Ethiopia's Eritrean province, the newspaper *Al-Sahafa* reported here today—Agence France-Press.

Consulates closed, page 5

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HOME NEWS

Cabinet ministers hint at level of wage increases sought by Government for coming year

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Figures on the Government's desired rate of wage increases for the coming year emerged over the weekend as Cabinet ministers increased their efforts to sustain trade union confidence in the social contract.

Mr. Healey, the Chancellor, told the shopworkers' conference in Scarborough that his forecast of a 13 per cent rate of inflation at the end of the year was based on an assumption that earnings did not rise into double figures in the next 12 months.

Mr. Owen, the Foreign Secretary, spoke of rises of 8 to 9 per cent, while the addressed a Labour Party gathering at Castleford, West Yorkshire.

Those are the first public indications by senior ministers of the level at which the Government wants to pitch phase three of the incomes policy.

Previously the Government had indicated that it would maintain the social contract and its commitment to voluntary wage restraint for a third year when the present powers expire on July 31.

Mr. Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, touched on the sensitive issue of wage ceilings on the *Weekend World* television programme yesterday, arguing that union members "must be given a chance to say, voluntarily, 'We will not push beyond certain limits'."

He did not say what those limits were, but rejected the classic provisions of the original social contract that allowed the strong to win rises in excess of 30 per cent.

"I think we would be right through the ceiling, I believe if we went back to 74-75, if we lost all the gains we have made in the past two years by the sacrifices of our own people, the pound would probably go for a Burton, which

would mean that the price of our imports would go up, and prices would rocket. I believe it would have an effect on unemployment - it is something nobody wants to contemplate."

Soundings among union leaders suggest that they are seeking a policy without upper limits. The most commonly expressed view among TUC negotiators is that there should be an understanding with the Government on guidelines that would aim to restrict the pay ambitions of trade unionists while returning to them an ele-

Social contract survives attack at Wales TUC

From Tim Jones
Labour Reporter
Tenby

The social contract has emerged intact after a bad battering at the Wales TUC. The South Wales area of the TUC, like its colleagues at the Scottish TUC, led the assault with warnings to the Government that it risked its special relationship with the movement by seeking a further year of wage restraint.

But the decision taken at the conference on Saturday was not conclusive as many unions, including the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU), the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union abstained. Mr. Jack Jones, general secretary of the TGWU, said it would wait until its own conference had taken a decision.

The result of a motion that demanded the removal of pay restraint was 294,800 against and 175,700 for, with 322,200

abstentions. Mr. Callaghan had told the delegates on Friday that a return to a wages free-for-all would lead to more unemployment and higher prices.

Mr. Emyl Williams, president of the South Wales area of the National Union of Seafarers, said he was certain that union conferences would declare the social contract dead. The working class, he maintained, wanted a break with "this insipid legislation".

He accused the Government of having done nothing fundamental to reduce unemployment, prices or profits.

Mr. Jones, speaking as a delegate, defended the social contract while emphasizing that the movement would press for import controls, more investment and a reversal of the "wrong trends of the latest Budget".

He said it was not the social contract that people were criticizing but pay policy. "It is the approach to future pay negotiations that will need to be changed one way or another and not the social contract."

Hoover seeks 'no-strike' promise by workers

By Our Labour Editor

An American multinational company has promised a big expansion of its factories in the west of Scotland, where unemployment is high, but only if it can have a "no-strike" guarantee from the workers.

Hoover, makers of domestic appliances, is seeking from union leaders a firm assurance that if an investment scheme at Cambuslang costing more than £15m goes ahead it will not be jeopardized by bad labour relations.

The company's management is to meet the unions soon in an effort to win their backing. Union leaders are believed to be sympathetic to the idea, because unemployment in the west of Scotland industrial belt is chronic and up to 3,000 jobs might be created over three to five years.

Hoover has already had informal contacts with the Scottish Development Agency about leasing more factory space.

The company announced in the early 1970s an expansion programme costing around £30m and divided between Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales. The idea was shelved in 1973 because of the economic recession, and in 1974 the Scottish factory was affected by a wave of strikes against pay restraint. The stoppage went on for 10 weeks.

The South Wales expansion plan has been revived, and Hoover is to lease a further 400,000 sq ft of factory space. More than 2,000 extra jobs are expected.

But the company is unwilling to go ahead with investment in Scotland until the unions involved, the relevant sections of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs and the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, give their word that the project will not be disrupted.

Some of the unions will find that easier than others. Engineering shop stewards have shown recently at British Leyland and Heathrow airport that they do not take kindly to "dictation" by union officials, and the scheme could well founder on this issue.

Hoover has three plants in Britain: at Cambuslang, where 3,650 workers turn out vacuum cleaners, irons, kettles and the motors for washing machines assembled at Merthyr Tydfil, where 4,800 are employed; and at Penrith, in west London, which has about 2,000 workers.

An Inland Revenue ruling means that the early retirement pensions miners will draw will not be nearly as much as if they had worked until 65. Those leaving at 60, which the new retirement agreement achieves in a year's time, will lose up to a quarter of their pension rights, according to the National Union of Mineworkers.

The first miners due for early retirement at 62 will also suffer a pensions loss when they start leaving on August 1.

100 arrested and policemen injured in scuffles at 'quiet' cup tie

Traders shut premises as visiting football hooligans impose a 'frightening tyranny'

From Robert Parker
Sheffield

The police said it was a relatively quiet football match and the old campaigners agreed. There were a hundred arrests and three policemen suffered minor injuries in the scuffles, but compared to some recent football matches the one on Saturday between Manchester United and Leeds was nothing like the worst.

I spent most of Saturday among some of the 46,000 supporters from Leeds and Manchester who poured into Sheffield for the FA Cup semi-final.

I marched with them, from the Midland station, around the city centre, which was markedly quieter than usual, to the ground three and a half miles away down Penistone Road, where most shops and public houses were boarded up.

I then remained with the 2,000 or so who could not get into the ground. Mainly Manchester supporters, some were barred because they had no

tickets and others because their tickets were forged.

Perhaps what I saw was unrepresentative, but what took place was very disturbing. It is not just the cost in policing and lost trade that neutral city like Sheffield had to pay, but the frightening tyranny of virtually uncontrollable youths.

The appearance of the trouble-makers outside the Hillsborough ground confirmed the general belief that they are the poor unemployed, discontented working class youth of the inner cities.

But the explanations of academics and sociologists, and even of some ministers, seemed difficult to accept as one watched the breaking of windows, the vandalism of parked cars, urinating in gardens, charging in hundreds down back streets of terrace houses and terrorizing residents.

Trouble was expected at the match, and South Yorkshire police had about 1,200 on duty. Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, who watched the match, spent the

morning with the police discussing their measures.

Police operations outside the ground cost £15,000, which is to be paid by local ratepayers and the taxpayer. The bill of several thousands pounds, for the 160 police inside the ground has to be met by the Sheffield Wednesday club.

Mr. Stanley Barratt, the chief constable, said he is making inquiries to find out why plans to keep rival supporters separated inside and outside the ground failed. Police in the ground had to form a barrier between Leeds and Manchester supporters who gained entry to the same terrace.

Outside the ground police, on horses, with dogs, on motor cycles and on foot, tried to contain the excluded supporters, who congregated where they could see the top of the terrace on which Leeds and Manchester followers were mingled. A system of communication took place, with people at the back of the terrace signalling to those outside.

At one stage a fight broke out at the top of the terrace.

Against the skyline it was possible to see a long weapon crashing down on somebody's head. Although I could not see who was hitting whom, the people around me seemed to know. The fight created an almost hysterical atmosphere among the people outside. When police arrived on the terrace the group on the road burst away, charging down the main Penistone road.

Police attempts to contain them failed and the crowd surged down a side street. By the time police had chased them out, they had smashed several house and car windows and pulled off windscreen wipers and mirrors.

Mr. Benjamin Smith, who lives in the side street, said everyone around was terrified. "We are getting up a petition to demand police protection. We have all had to stand in front of our houses to try to protect them. The crowd told us that if Manchester lost we had better look out, because they would do the whole lot in."

Match report, page 6

81 charged after clashes at National Front march

By a Staff Reporter

A demonstration by left-wing groups against a National Front march in north London on Saturday led to scuffles and 81 people being charged with minor offences. Six policemen and several demonstrators were injured, none seriously.

As about a thousand National Front marchers moved off up the main shopping street at Wood Green, shepherded by policemen, some anti-racist demonstrators threw fruit, flour and placards. The police made many arrests and took more demonstrators into custody along the route.

Demands for a ban on the Front's public activities were made before the march at a

meeting organized by an ad hoc anti-fascist committee embracing local communists, Labour parties, immigrant groups and the far left.

About a thousand police with horses and dogs kept the groups apart and cordoned off the National Front meeting at the end of its march. Front marchers showed banners from Edinburgh, Bristol, the West Midlands and other centres. Heavy rain forced some demonstrators and police to seek shelter.

The anti-racist meeting was technically in breach of Harrogate by-laws, but members of the council's ruling Labour group backed it and the police made no attempt to stop it.

Yellow card warning for under-age drinkers

Licencees and public-house managers are to use yellow cards, like the football referee's warning card, to discourage under-age drinkers.

The idea has been approved in talks between the brewers, the licensed victuallers' union and licensed house managers. On each card will be a message pointing out that society through Parliament "has laid down rules which must apply to pubs and to all other places where alcohol is sold".

The message says: "Just as in a football match or any other sport, these rules must be obeyed for the game to go on. One of the most basic rules

is that no one under the age of 18 must either purchase, have purchased for them or consume alcohol in a bar."

"When a football referee sees an infringement of the rules he can show the player a yellow card as a warning that a rule has been broken. In this spirit you are invited to take this card, which we hope will be helpful in making clear the precise position when young people enter licensed premises."

Cards will be supplied to public houses at 75p a hundred. Posters and window stickers will also be used in the campaign.

Chancellor's warning on a pay explosion

Continued from page 1

the International Monetary Fund to keep money supply tightly in check.

The result, therefore of failure would be increasing lack of credibility in the Government and a corresponding reduction in its chances of surviving a general election.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said on Saturday that the conquest of inflation would be a long, hard task, adding that it would not go away on a change of government.

He was not suggesting that the present Government would remain in office, but that inflation would not be cured by any "coup de theatre", certainly not by an enthusiastic embrace of free collective bargaining if that was taken to mean a reversion to an irresponsible "free for all".

In an "open letter" on Saturday to the chairman of the trade union advisory committee of the East of England Conservative Association, he implied that the next Conservative Government

would have some form of wage restraint policy.

In his speech to the shopworkers' union on pay restraint Mr. Healey said: "I do not understand the difficulty of reaching the right sort of agreement. It is going to be hell."

He left no doubt that the Government is looking for a formal third phase and not a loosely defined understanding on future restraint, which appears increasingly to be favoured by some union leaders.

It was no good relying on vague expressions of good will, he said. That was tried 10 years ago and it melted away like butter in the sun.

Mr. Healey insisted on the need for 12-month intervals between settlements and added: "It would be fatal if the idea got around that after July 31 everyone is able to reopen the agreements already made. That would be the father and mother of all wage explosions. Sticking to the existing rules about phase two is a co-ordination for getting back to collective bargaining without disaster."

Journalists to fight merger of evening newspapers

Continued from page 1

He inherited what he calls the extraordinary loyalty of readers to the *Evening Standard's* features and columns and its progressive political stance on race and immigration and the conservation of London landmarks. Editorially the paper has tended to support the Conservative Party.

The philosophy of Mr. Jenkins and his staff is best seen in the paper's campaigns on the capital's environment: the conservation of Piccadilly Circus, opening Somerset House to the public, and on waste in London's local government.

The *Evening Standard* helps to sustain a part of the London theatre and book world with its literary and dramatic awards. Mr. Jenkins contends that the commercial success of many West End productions depends largely on the notice taken of them in the paper.

A facet of Mr. Wintour's editorship to which Mr. Jenkins is fully committed is a policy of recruiting young journalists and maturing them to the point where other Fleet Street newspapers make good use of their offers. Mr. Jenkins said: "It is a tribute to the *Standard* that they are not attracted away. It would be a severe loss if the present editorial team we have were broken up."

Mr. Jenkins is working as if no decision has been taken on the future of his paper. "An editorial meeting of its journalists on Saturday was told by him of the importance of sticking together. He said: 'The next event for the *Standard* is the next day's editorial conference, where we

shall set about producing a bloody good newspaper until such time as someone stops us."

Plans for a new London evening paper produced by Associated Newspapers have gone as far as the production of dummy copies.

Despite attempts by a section of the board of Beaverbrook Newspapers to prevent the sale of the *Evening Standard*, senior executives of Associated Newspapers said yesterday the deal had gone "a very long way".

The state of the two newspapers is intended to forestall any exchange of contracts. Journalists at the *Evening News* are to meet this morning to discuss the situation and that could disrupt production of early editions.

Tomorrow the fathers (chairmen) of the National Union of Journalists' chapters (office branches) in the Beaverbrook group and in Associated Newspapers hope to see Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. They want him to refer the proposed merger to the Monopolies Commission.

The printing unions employed by both groups have expressed concern at any loss of jobs and on Friday night production of the *Daily Express* was delayed until the management agreed to print a detail that the *Standard* had been sold.

In the view of Associated Newspapers, there is no choice facing Beaverbrook. It has to sell the *Standard* to give the *Daily Express* and the *Sunday Express* any chance of survival. The quest of the Beaverbrook board for sources of finance to tide the company over its difficulties is said so far to have been fruitless.

Tory approves civil servants' TUC link

By Our Labour Editor

Mr. James Prior, Opposition spokesman on employment, has said the proposed affiliation to the TUC of senior civil servants who advise Cabinet ministers "would not put at risk the independence and political impartiality of the Civil Service".

In a letter to the Association of First Division Civil Servants Mr. Prior said the TUC will make the trade unions' central policymaking body more representative. He pledges that the next Tory government will seek "good and close relations" with organised labour.

Mr. Prior was asked by Mr. Norman Ellis, general secretary of the association, which

represents 10,000 senior civil servants up to permanent secretary level, what would be the Conservative Party's view if his members agreed in a ballot this year to accept an executive commendation to affiliate to the TUC.

In his reply Mr. Prior said the Conservatives attached fundamental importance to an independent, non-political Civil Service loyal to any elected government.

"In fact," as the association's affiliation to the TUC would give a voice in its councils to a significant additional group of employees it is fair to say that your affiliation would strengthen the representative nature of the TUC," he said.

"We are happy to accept your assurance that if the member-

ship of the association decide to maintain its position of strict party political neutrality."

That was the position in several unions affiliated to the TUC, particularly public service ones, "and we see no reason why it should not be for your association too".

When Mr. Ellis approached Mr. Prior he said it was the firm intention of his executive to maintain the political neutrality of the Civil Service.

In a similar initiative last year the on other key Civil Service union outside the TUC, the 105,000-member Institution of Professional Civil Servants, voted at its annual conference to end nearly 60 years of isolation from the Labour movement.

Two more deaths in Ulster make total of 56 this year

From Stewart Tendler
Belfast

Two deaths in Northern Ireland at the weekend brought the total of people killed since the beginning of the year to 56. The first four months of last year produced 111 deaths.

An old age pensioner became the fifth man to die from sectarian violence in the past few days when gunmen attacked a Roman Catholic bar at Craigavon, co. Armagh. Yesterday a man, aged 24, one of eight people injured in the attack, was seriously ill in hospital.

More than a hundred customers were in the Legation Inn at closing time when two gunmen entered and opened fire with a pistol and a sub-machine-

gun. The dead man, aged 72, was hit in the head.

At about the same time an Army patrol in west Belfast shot and killed Mr. Brendan O'Callaghan, aged 21, of Carrigan Avenue, Londonderry. The Army at first said that the patrol was fired at the fire. Later a spokesman said the patrol saw three men standing outside a bar in Stewartstown Road. One man was seen to cock a weapon and the patrol opened fire. The other men got away in a car.

Yesterday the Provisional IRA said that the dead man was one of a patrol set up to guard the streets of west Belfast against attacks from "loyalists".

Ex-champion wins regional crossword final

By Our Crossword Editor

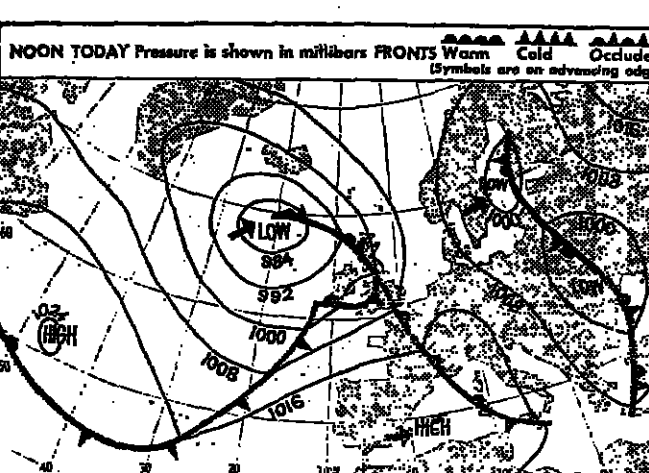
The third of this year's seven regional finals in the *Cutty Rarities* national crossword championship took place in Birmingham yesterday and was attended by 115 finalists, including Dr. John Sykes, who was national champion in the four years 1972-75 but did not compete last year.

Only six competitors completed all four puzzles without error, and Dr. Sykes, editor of the *Condor Oxford Dictionary*, showed that his year's absence from the championship has done nothing to reduce his accuracy and speed by taking first place, and the title of Birmingham regional champion, with 87 time bonus points.

The runner-up was Mr. Philip Meade, a civil servant, last year's West Bromwich champion. He scored 81 time bonus points and also qualified for the national final in September.

Mrs. Lindsay Ramsey, on behalf of Cutty Rarities Whisky, also presented prizes to Mr. John Sparrow and Mr. Wilfrid Miron who were third and fourth with 73 and 75 time bonus points respectively. Fifth and sixth places were taken by Mr. Roy Davies and Mr. P. Jubb, with 63 and 45 time bonus points respectively.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 5.45 am
Sun sets: 8.14 pm
Moon sets: 1.29 am
Moon rises: 10.49 am
First quarter: Tomorrow.
Lighting up: 8.44 pm to 5.13 am.
High water: London Bridge, 6.43 am, 6.4m (21.0ft); 6.54 pm, 6.3m (20.5ft).
Avalonmouth, 11.41 am, 10.8m (35.5ft).
Dover, 3.38 am, 5.6m (18.5ft).
Bristol, 11.58 am, 4.6 m, 5.5m (18.0ft).
Birmingham, 10.45 am, 6.2m (20.4ft); 11.27 pm, 5.8m (19.1ft).
Liverpool, 3.51 am, 7.5m (24.5ft); 4.24 pm, 7.5m (24.5ft).

There is a deep depression to the W of Scotland, with associated troughs of low pressure crossing the British Isles.
Forecast for 6 am to midnight:
London, E. S. and S. England, B. Midland, E. S. and S. England, B. Becoming cloudy with rain at times; wind SW, moderate; max temp 13°C (55°F).
W. Midlands, SW England, Wales, Channel Islands: Rather cloudy, rain at times; wind W, fresh; max temp 13°C (55°F).
Lake District, NW England, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW, SW Scotland, N. Ireland, N. Scotland: Cloudy with rain, becoming brighter and drier during afternoon; wind S, fresh; max temp 9°C or 10°C (48° to 50°F).
Orkney, Shetland: Becoming cloudy with rain, brighter later; wind SE, veering SW, fresh or strong; max temp 7°C (45°F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Showers, heavy in places, but also sunny intervals; temp near normal, but becoming rather cold in N.

South passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, moderate, increasing to fresh or strong; sea moderate, becoming rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea:
Wind S to SW, fresh or strong, locally gale; sea rough.

Saturday
London: Temp: max, 7 am to 7 pm, 16°C (61°F); min, 7 pm to 7 am, 9°C (48°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 70 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, 0.13in. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 5.6hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,002.3 millibars, falling.

Yesterday
London: Temp: max, 7 am to 7 pm, 15°C (59°F); min, 7 pm to 7 am, 5°C (41°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 34 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, 0.07in. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 10.8hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,013.2 millibars, rising. 1,013.2 millibars = 29.53in.

Overseas selling prices
Copper, 22 1/2; Brass, 22 1/2; Tin, 22 1/2; Lead, 22 1/2; Zinc, 22 1/2; Nickel, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Iridium, 22 1/2; Osmium, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1/2; Manganese, 22 1/2; Chromium, 22 1/2; Vanadium, 22 1/2; Niobium, 22 1/2; Tantalum, 22 1/2; Zirconium, 22 1/2; Hafnium, 22 1/2; Rhenium, 22 1/2; Ruthenium, 22 1/2; Rhodium, 22 1/2; Palladium, 22 1/2; Silver, 22 1/2; Gold, 22 1/2; Platinum, 22 1/2; Cobalt, 22 1

HOME NEWS

More Heathrow flights
at away but end
strike not in sight

Labour Editor
Airways yesterday
ed nearly three quarters
strike-affected European
from Heathrow. It hopes
the same today as well
its long-haul interconti-
nental flights.
id that some engineering
s involved in the dispute
turned to work.
prospects of an early
the strike, now going
a fourth week, do not
bright. Mr. Reginald
a member of the execu-
council of the Amalgam-
Union of Engineering
s, will tomorrow recom-
making the stoppage
than 250 shop stewards
nizing the 4,000 engin-
workers involved in the
voted overwhelmingly
today to stay out. Mr
said afterwards: "Our
s now under attack from
er unions, and I shall be
the executive to endorse
membership's action."

Magazine criticized for
marks about inventor

Press Council has criti-
cized a newspaper's week-
ly for making disparag-
ing remarks about a brilliant
inventor and in an adjudica-
tion yesterday it said
that the public had ever
of him was patently un-
just. The Greater Lon-
don Council's system of attach-
ing commendative blue
marks to buildings, *The Daily
Graph* Magazine, as it was
called, said that comedy
breaking in. For example,
que had been erected to
commemorate an engineer, A. D.
Blumlein, whose work in radar
so secret, it said, that no
er of the public had ever
l of him.
mentioned in the same
graph that Blumlein, who
duced several patents, was
(composed) had also been
memorialized.
P. P. Thomson, of Church-
ill, Watford, was invited to
a letter for publication
he complained about the
le. In it he said the refer-
ence to Mr. Blumlein had been
useful and acutely distress-

BC regrets over play

he director general of the
has expressed regret over
the play in a controversial
vision play. Mrs. Mary
ithouse, secretary of the
ional Viewers' and Listen-
ers' Association, said yesterday
he said Sir Charles Curran
l written for her about the
C1 play, *Gothic*, in the series
for Today, which the associa-
tion criticized as an "ob-
scure gesture to the Annon Com-
ment and to the Government".
Mr. Charles told Mrs. White-
house the play's screening was

planned before the publication
of the Annon report was known.
He agreed that "the play was
excessive in its use of lan-
guage".
A sexual assault on a young
teacher in the drama was "a
shocking incident", but he de-
fended the play's theme. The
author was seeking to pre-
sent the innermost feelings of
the adolescent youth with no
prospect of academic attain-
ment, on hearing over and over
again exhortation to "achieve-
ment".

More Continental meat products in UK

the British farmers strive to
port more fresh meat, suppliers
where in the EEC are selling
meat products in the United
Kingdom. Britain is exchanging a
living proportion of its beef for
cheese and wheat.
Examination of the changing
trends is timely, as the British
Agricultural Export Council is
tackling towards a formula by
which it can work having lost its
airman and failed to find much
its budget, there is little that the
unct can do now to enlarge meat
ports.
Its counterparts overseas, how-
ever, are working hard to capture
one of the British market. The
trend of the market in which
rich livestock farmers sell their
animals is changing.
The National Survey published
by the Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food shows
at household consumption of all
meat was lower last year than
1975. Its supply survey, which
uses consumption figures on what
is available rather than what is
consumed, puts the total meat
consumption at less than 21kg a head
last year, compared with more
in 1975. The world average of meat
consumption issued by the United
Nations Department of Agriculture
shows that consumption has fallen
between 1954 and 1974 in all
European countries except Sweden,
where it fell, and Norway, Switzer-
land and the Soviet Union, where
it did not change.
Beef supplies in Britain last year
were lower than six years before
and exports to the rest of the world
times as great. Lamb exports last
year were almost double the total
of 1971 and supplies to the home
market were up 32 per cent. The
Denmark has supplied meat prod-
ucts to Britain for generations

Agriculture

Hugh Clayton

and now holds about 43 per cent of
the British bacon market. Almost
three quarters of Danish farms
produce pigs and two fifths of all
Danish pigmeat is sold in the
United Kingdom.
Denmark has been squeezed out
of the British market as rising prices
have reduced demand for bacon.
Although Danish farmers enlarged
their market share in 1975 and
suffered only a small drop in total
sales, they lost share and sales in
1976.
In 1975 they supplied almost half
of the British market, with supplies of
227,000 tonnes. Last year they
managed to sell only 208,000
tonnes, which gave them a market
share of 44 per cent. The Danish
Ministry of Agriculture has
Holland, however, has pushed
forward while Denmark has fallen
back. The Dutch Preserved Meat
Marketing Board is practically a
newcomer to the British market
and staged its first sales promotion
only six months ago. Sales of
Sopexa, the powerful French
equivalent of the British Farnham
brand, are rising hard to
enlarge the British market for
charcuterie. Sopexa said in Lon-
don: "Continental charcuterie
accounts for 32 per cent of the
British total by value and is grow-
ing faster than the market. France

Cabinet still
undecided
on voting for
Europe

By Our Political Reporter
Politicians looking for hints
of a Government preference for
an electoral system to the
European Parliament will be
disappointed at the end of the
debate on direct elections in
the Commons tonight.
Some MPs were hoping that
Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, who
is responsible for drawing up
the Bill on direct elections, would
be ready to clarify the
Government's position. In fact,
the Cabinet has still to consider
the matter.
Ministers have stuck to their
plan that there should be a
debate on the consultative
White Paper before they get
down to the complicated and
controversial task of choosing
one of the four options. The
two most likely candidates are
the first-past-the-post system,
and proportional representation
using regional lists.
In a poll of 444 MPs con-
ducted by *London Weekend
Television's Weekend World*, a
majority favoured the tradi-
tional first-past-the-post system.
But calculations made in the
programme of how all MPs
would vote on the issue have
to be treated with caution.
The projection showed that
230 MPs would prefer the tradi-
tional system and 194 the
regional list, with 160 un-
committed. But that total of
584 leaves more than 40 MPs
unaccounted for.

Bath plan may
go to
public inquiry

By Michael Horsnell
Mr. Shore, Secretary of State
for the Environment, is ex-
pected to order a public inquiry
into a controversial planning
application in Bath which
threatens to contravene the
city's development plan.
The application, which was
the subject of inquiries by *The
Times* earlier this year, is for
the erection of a factory on
land designated as residential.
In spite of mounting criticism
by people living near the site,
which is owned by Horsnall
Gear Ltd, Avon County Council
endorsed planning approval
granted earlier by Bath City
Council.
The Department of the En-
vironment yesterday confirmed
that Mr. Shore has directed the
county council to refer the
application to him for a deci-
sion.

Curzon gold and
silver stolen

A watch was being kept on
Channel ports last night after
the theft of museum exhibits
from Kedleston Hall, Derby-
shire, the home of Lord Scar-
sdale.
Most of the 21 items stolen,
which included gold, silver and
semiprecious jewels, had been
presented to Lord Curzon, the
uncle of the present Lord
Scarsdale, when he was Viceroy
of India.



Children and their parents went to the Horniman Museum, south London, to learn how to identify and handle various kinds of snakes. Family groups took part in a quiz.

Mobility aid provided for 87,000 people

The total number of disabled
people receiving outdoor mobility
help is 87,000. More than
43,000 people receive the new
mobility allowance and 44,000
return benefits under the old
vehicle scheme.
At December 31 in the last
three years of the old scheme
the number of beneficiaries,
excluding war pensioners, for
whom separate provision is
made, was: 1973, 37,000; 1974,
42,000; 1975, 48,000.
Health and Social Security, April 19.

Social security frauds: The
number of people sentenced to
imprisonment for social securi-
ty frauds in 1975 and 1976
was 1,077 and 1,507 respective-

Answers in
Parliament

A periodic digest of
information given in
parliamentary written replies
with the sources and dates
on which they appeared in
Hansard.

Of those, 569 and 758
respectively were suspended.
Health and Social Security, April 19.

Controlled tenancies: The es-
timated number of controlled tenan-
cies in England and Wales in mid-
1957 and at the end of 1965 was

3,900,000 and 1,900,000 respective-
ly. The present estimate is 375,000,
but a survey being analysed sug-
gests that the actual figure may be
lower.
Environment, April 19

Rent subsidies: Central Govern-
ment subsidy and rate fund contri-
butions to housing revenue
accounts in England this year will
be £1,199m. Rent rebates will cost
£318m extra.
Environment, April 20

Gypsy sites: Local authorities in
England and Wales have provided
146 sites, accommodating 2,328
gypsy caravans. That leaves about
three quarters of the gypsy popula-
tion with no legal stopping place.
Environment, April 20

Torpedoes: The submarine fleet's
main anti-surface-ship armament

until the Sub-Harpoon enters ser-
vice in the early 1980s will be the
Mark 8 torpedo. The original ver-
sion was introduced in 1934; the
last of the current version was
manufactured in 1952. The tor-
pedo's many modifications, based
on operational experience, have
improved its effectiveness and reli-
ability.
Defence, March 23

Frigates: The running cost of a
frigate is about £7,000 a day.
Defence, March 22

Factory farms: A broad estimate
of the number of farm livestock
kept under intensive husbandry
systems in England and Wales on
June 1, 1976 was: 200,000 cattle
reared for slaughter at under 14
months; 6.5 million pigs; 100.5
million poultry.
Agriculture, April 19

Plan by Bow
Group man
for reform
of Lords

By Our Political Staff
Proposals for reforming the
House of Lords, including a new
title, Lords of Parliament, are
contained in a Bow Group
pamphlet published today.
Although the author, Mr.
Jacques Arnold, would not
abolish peerages for social and
historic reasons, he would give
present peers the right to stand
in parliamentary elections. But
the number elected to a reformed
House of Lords would be limited.

The pamphlet advocates a
new second chamber of 200
county representatives, 127
peers nominated by the Com-
mons, 25 representatives of
hereditary peers, 25 representa-
tives of peers by creation, 12
from the established churches,
15 Law Lords, 15 representa-
tives of university graduates
and 81 members of the Euro-
pean Parliament.

There would also be four
royal dukes, three former
prime ministers, six former
chancellors and two former
foreign secretaries, that would
make a combined total of 515.
Mr. Arnold says the county
representatives would be chosen
at the time of elections to the
Greater London Council, metro-
politan districts and non-
metropolitan county councils.
The election would be by the
list system on the basis of the
parties' proportion of votes at
the local elections.

Peers nominated by the Com-
mons would allow for "political
peers" to enter the Lords, by
proportional selection at the
beginning of the session depend-
ing on the parties' strengths in
the Commons. The 25 heredi-
tary peers would be chosen
by their colleagues.
*Reform of the House of Lords
(Bow Group Publications, 40p).*

V and A stays open

Plans to close the Victoria
and Albert Museum, London,
on Mondays have been post-
poned pending talks with the
Civil Service Union after a
strike threat.

Think of your international bank as a Restaurant



1. Do the waiters practise
a) contemptuous servility,
b) friendly persuasion, or
c) interested attention?
2. Do the soufflés always
come up to expectations or
are they sometimes a bit of a
let down?
3. Can they always find you a
table, even when they're fully
booked?
4. Is the cuisine as inter-
national as the menu?

If you chose your bank the way
you'd choose a restaurant, would
yours give you food for thought?

Barclays International really is
international. Through 1700
branches in over 70 countries we
offer a worldwide range of services
and the banking skills of managers
who have broad experience from

working in a variety of overseas
markets.

What's more, Barclays has 25
specialist international branches in
this country—more than any other
bank. And whichever one you deal
with you'll find it's like having your
own personal Head Waiter—an
experienced executive who'll get to
know your needs, and who can
help you with everything from
supplying market intelligence and
developing your taste for new
export opportunities to arranging
overseas finance and credit.

For the full menu of our services,
call the manager of your nearest
branch of Barclays Bank
International. Or contact our
International Division at
168 Fenchurch Street, London
EC3P 3HP, telephone 01-283 8989,
extension 3218.



**BARCLAYS
International**

Five stars in the Good Bank Guide.

Science report

Medicine: Tranquillizers and the brain

The possibility that the brain pos-
sesses its own natural tranquil-
lizers has arisen from new experi-
ments on the action of tranquiliz-
ing drugs such as Valium, Librium
and Mogadon. Those drugs now
appear to latch on to specific sites
a nerve endings in the brain, and
it seems likely that there must be
a natural brain chemical for
which those sites exist.
The tranquilizers in question
constitute a chemical family known
benzodiazepines. They are
indeed out to over-anxious
states in huge quantities, pre-
sently now that the barbiturate
tranquillizers are falling out of
favour. A considerable amount of
work on the mechanism of action
the benzodiazepines in the brain
led to conflicting theories. A
one now arises from the work
of Dr. Richard F. Squires
on the Ferrosan laboratories in
Søborg, Denmark, and Dr. Claus
prentiss from the laboratory of
Hans Mental Hospital in Ros-
kilde, Denmark.
They have demonstrated that

Valium and 20 other benzodiazep-
ines latch on to highly receptive
sites on nerve endings from rat
brain, but that no other drug
tested could do so. The degree to
which the other benzodiazep-
ines could compete with Valium
in binding to nerve endings varied
from drug to drug. That degree for
each drug correlated rather well
with the relative effectiveness for
each drug in a laboratory method
for restoring tranquillizing power
the ability to relax a muscle pre-
paration. That is good evidence that
the binding to nerve endings is
really related to the action of the
drugs.

How then does that binding
translate into a tranquillizing effect?
Tranquillizing effects must in-
volve nerve action during which
chemical messages are passed from
one nerve to another. Several brain
chemicals have been identified as
the natural transmitters of mes-
sages between nerves. It has pre-
sented from the laboratory of
Hans Mental Hospital in Ros-
kilde, Denmark.
They have demonstrated that

nerve endings to which the trans-
mitters attach. Dr. Squires and Dr.
Bretting, however, found that
none of the transmitters they tried
were capable of competing with
Valium in its binding to nerve
endings. That suggests that the
benzodiazepines have their own
binding site distinct from that of
any of the transmitters.

It seems most unlikely that the
brain would possess specific bind-
ing sites for a man-made drug.
That reassures the scientists to the
knowledge that the brain had bind-
ing sites for the opiate drugs
(which are not man-made but are
also not normally encountered by
the brain) recently led to the dis-
covery of natural, pain-killing
drugs in the brain. By analogy it
now seems well worth hunting for
a natural brain tranquillizer.
*By Nature Times News Service
Source: Nature, April 21 (266,
232: 1977).*
*© Nature-Times News Service,
1977.*

EKOFSK DISASTER

Safety valve fault may have stopped oil cut off

By Roger Vielvoys
Energy Correspondent

A fault on an automatic safety valve fixed about 200ft down the out-of-control well on the Phillips Bravo platform may have prevented the expensive safety equipment built into offshore drilling platforms from containing the flow of oil.

It is normal practice among all oil companies in both the British and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea to fit a number of these safety valves. In the case of any unscheduled happening, such as a sudden high pressure surge of oil or gas from the depth of the reservoir, these valves automatically shut and close down the well.

A spokesman for Phillips said one of the valves had been in place down the well but there was some doubt as to whether it had completely malfunctioned or had only partly broken down.

From looking at the flow of oil from the well it appeared that the valve might be partially functioning, the spokesman said. The well had been capable of producing 20,000-50,000 barrels (about 3,500 to 4,000 tonnes) of oil a day but it seemed that the flow was considerably less than this, although there was no way of measuring it exactly.

Phillips confirmed that a crew had taken the well over operation for a "work-over" routine maintenance on the well. As far as was known all the routine procedures for such an operation had been followed. When the well was being worked, the oil flows from the ground end into the production platform through a large "Christmas tree" of valves and con-



Mr Asgar ("Boots") Hansen, an American expert on oil blow-outs, arriving at Stavanger; Mr Benn with Mr Bjartmar Gjerde, the Norwegian Minister of Industry, at Oslo airport yesterday.

trols into which is built a blow-out preventer.

The blow-out preventer again operates automatically, and can contain a sudden surge of oil under pressure by completely blocking the drill pipe with a series of hydraulic rams. To carry out maintenance on the well the "Christmas tree" has to be removed but before this can be done the oil flow is stopped by pumping a chemical mud under high pressure into the drilling pipes which neutralizes the upward pressures.

When the well has been stabilized and engineers are sure that the oil flow is contained, it is left for a number of hours on this occasion five

before any work is carried out. The Christmas tree is then removed and a temporary blow-out preventer installed on top of the well.

Phillips confirmed that the blow-out happened while the crew was trying to fit the temporary blow-out preventer. Only two of the fixing bolts designed to control it had not been secured before the crew had to abandon the operation.

There was no indication why there had been a sudden surge of pressure or why the valves designed to control it had not worked properly, a company spokesman said. There would be a full investigation but everyone's efforts were being chan-

nelled into stopping the flow of oil.

One theory being circulated in oil industry circles is that the surge in pressure was created from a fault on the packer which acts as a plug at the bottom of the well, some 10,000ft below the surface.

There was also considerable surprise among oil experts in London at the possibility of one of the down-the-well safety valves failing. The experience of most companies has been that the valves are too sensitive and are certainly not prone to failure.

On British Petroleum's Forties field there have been several occasions when very

slight increases in pressure have shut down wells automatically, within any designated safety limits.

Pearce Wright writes: The nightmare for the oilmen is to avoid a fire risk such as one that destroyed the Wickenburg platform in the Gulf of Mexico. It is feared for seven months before being finally extinguished.

But burning the discharging crude oil would be ecologically less damaging than allowing a flow to continue for such a long time. There are obvious dangers to fishing grounds, birds and other wildlife, and threats of a black tide on beaches preparing for the summer.

WEST EUROPE

Britain renews battle with rest of Nine over farm price review

From David Cross
Brussels, April 24

The British Government faces intense pressure this week from other EEC members, with nine million increasingly impatient farmers behind them, to play the Community game by agreeing to raise farm and food prices.

After failing last month to meet their usual April 1 deadline, ministers of agriculture of the Nine began a meeting in Luxembourg tomorrow to continue their negotiations on this year's farm price review.

The general expectation in Brussels is that, after some well-staged wrangling for the benefit of British public opinion, the ministers will agree to a package of measures which will almost certainly increase food prices in Britain by at least 2p in the £.

The ministers will have before them a series of final compromise suggestions agreed by eight member governments, but rejected by the British at the end of a 50-hour marathon nearly a month ago.

To the great irritation of their partners, the British refused to accept a consumer subsidy worth some 7p a lb and a 4 per cent devaluation of the unit called "green pound" the unit in which British farm prices are calculated. The British maintained this would put up food prices by about 3 pence.

This was far from Britain's original demands for a 20p a lb

butter subsidy and a 2.5 per cent green pound devaluation. Britain's aim was to freeze butter prices over the next 12 months; otherwise they would rise by some 16p a lb as a result of various EEC arrangements.

The problem this week will be to find a face-saving formula for the British Government which inevitably will have to accept something much more modest than it sought originally. This would involve a slight increase in the butter subsidy to perhaps 8p a lb and a slightly smaller green pound devaluation of some 3 per cent, perhaps.

Such arrangements could keep the price of butter stable for the next few months, but other food prices like beef, cereals, bacon, pork and possibly milk would rise. The European Commission has calculated that the final compromise the British rejected last month would cut food prices by more than 2.5 per cent. Any change the British may secure would modify this increase only marginally.

As part of the price package, the British will almost certainly have to agree to a much bigger increase in the price of milk, milk-producers than it sought originally.

An immediate increase of 3.5 per cent, which seems most likely, would inevitably help to stimulate the butter and milk mountains, although it might be moderated slightly by a 1.5 per cent production cut which would begin to be levied in the autumn.

Latin Mass Mr va supporters take over Lille church Rhode

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, April 24

About 400 Roman Catholic traditionalists took over the Church of St Etienne, a centre of Lille, this morning and heard two impromptu conciliar Masses said by their leaders, the Abbé Mouroux of Nancy. The Mass were attended by the Abbé Coache, one of the organisers of the occupation of the church of St Nicolas des Chateaux in Paris which began on February 27.

The traditionalists had assembled as usual in an old people's home on the outskirts of Lille to worship, when they were told to get into waiting buses and were taken to St Etienne.

The ordinary 9 am Mass in the church and began the style Mass. They made an attempt to occupy the church however, and once the Mass had been said left quietly.

Among the Paris traditionalists there have been signs of slight thaw since Cardinal Marty, the Archbishop of Paris, offered them the use of a church until July 4.

Mgr Ducaud-Bourget, a spiritual leader of the traditionalists, at first turned down the offer. But he has now been persuaded to accept it. St Etienne is just off the Paris ring motorway, and says he will give his reply to Cardinal Marty. It seems probable that the offer will be accepted.

International moves

Hope of more effective European cooperation

By David Cross
Brussels, April 24

The huge oil spill in the North Sea will give new impetus to European efforts to find new more effective ways of fighting such disasters.

It was only last week that representatives of West European maritime nations, including Britain and Norway, agreed on the need for further strengthening of cooperation to tackle oil spills.

At a conference in Hamburg, signatories of a 1969 agreement covering oil spills in the North Sea instructed some of their number to look into the possibility of setting up a joint agency.

The Norwegians will be responsible for working out financial arrangements for sharing equipment used to fight spills, and The Netherlands will investigate whether the 1969 Bonn agreement should be extended to cover other pollutants like toxic chemicals.

The 1969 convention laid down guidelines for tackling oil spills, but its recommendations are not binding. A second forum, which has been encouraging North Sea Governments to tackle oil spills, is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. At the last meeting of the alliance's committee on the challenges of modern society in Düsseldorf in February, Dr Joseph Luns, the Nato secretary-general, called on member states to deal with oil spills on an international basis.

In December 1970, Foreign Ministers of the alliance committed their Governments to work urgently to minimize the risk and consequences of accidental spills; to press for early implementation of other international agreements on pollution of the sea by oil; and to accelerate research.

In Brussels last October, there was general agreement among the allies to work on a five-point programme tabled by the Norwegian Government

Accident will have political effects

From Geoffrey Dodd
Copenhagen, April 24

The Ekofisk blow-out, although a purely technical accident, will have serious political repercussions both in Norway and in the rest of Scandinavia.

The environmental lobby's campaign against the use of nuclear power led to the defeat of the Swedish Social Democratic Party in recent general elections. In Norway Mr Odvar Nordli's Labour Party holds only 62 of the Storting's 155 seats and general elections are due in September.

Only the tiny Communist Party, led by Mr M. G. Knudsen, has attempted so far to exploit the political aspects of the situation with its demand today that Mr Nordli resign.

Norway meanwhile has accepted a Danish proposal that a committee be formed to co-ordinate efforts to limit the environmental damage caused by the blow-out.

Oslo: Mrs Brundtland, Minister for the Environment, said an independent commission of inquiry would be appointed to investigate the blow-out and promised to give Parliament a full report as soon as possible.

Watch in Britain

East coast alert for emergency services

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

Emergency services along the east coast have been alerted in case the slick of oil from the Norwegian Ekofisk field begins moving towards Britain. The slick lies on the sea surface half-way between Scotland and Denmark at the mercy of the winds and sea currents.

The present weather pattern is changeable, with bad weather and poor visibility forecast to move into the area from the south-east today. Under the overall prevailing pattern, however, the bulk of the oil will probably be spreading on the Danish or Norwegian shores, arriving some time during the next few days.

Yesterday the Norwegians were handling the situation alone. The British frigate Hardy was still 150 miles from the Ekofisk field. An RAF Nimrod aircraft is ready to act as a communication centre if required.

Large stocks of chemical dispersants are held at ports along the east coast. The United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association has already sent three sets of spraying gear and detergent from its stock at Aberdeen to civilian service vessels which

are now operating on the Ekofisk slick.

Other stocks are maintained at major ports along the coast by the Department of Trade, should it prove impossible to break up the slick at sea. Local authorities and owners of private boats have also been alerted and between Cape Wrath and Berwick some 33,600 gallons of dispersant fluid and a large number of people are in readiness.

A Department of Trade spokesman said yesterday: "We are ready to go into action if required. The pattern is that immediate responsibility for dealing with a spill from a rig falls upon the oil company involved, usually the United Kingdom operator."

Then the Department of Trade is brought in to help with dispersal at sea and finally, when the oil reaches the shore, it becomes a local authority matter.

North Sea fishermen are also most immediately concerned about the effects of the Ekofisk slick. Mr James Love, chairman and chief executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Organisation, said yesterday: "This slick could destroy 100 square miles of the North Sea and the pollution effect could be very serious."

Research work

A strange fleet of vessels built to mop up slicks

A 10-year research programme between BP and Vickers has produced a series of futuristic machines which can deal with all types of oil slicks. BP began research on a new system for combating oil pollution at sea in 1967, and then handed over the results to Vickers for further development. Two and a half years ago Vickers-Slingsby began production of an inflatable boom, contained in a fibreglass boat called the seapack.

The purpose of the boom is to contain the oil spill and prevent it drifting on to beaches or being dispersed in smaller slicks.

After containing the spill, the oil is removed by a machine which looks like an upturned space rocket, called the seaskimmer.

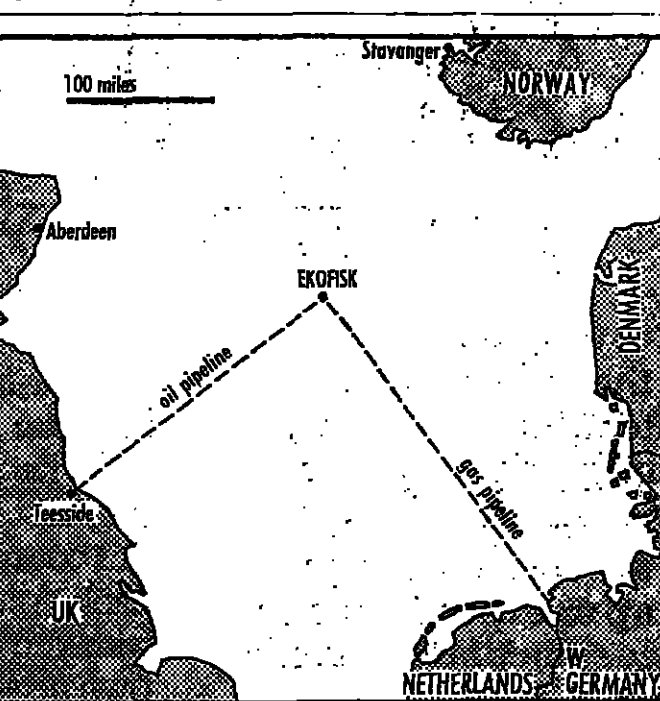
Slingsby, in north Yorkshire,

make this under licence from BP, and while the prototype came from the oil giant, Slingsby engineers redesigned it so that it could be produced in plastic.

Working with the fibreglass boat, oil has been successfully picked up in seas despite 6ft waves.

The essential feature about the seaskimmer is that it will remove up to 100 tons of oil an hour. A mini-skimmer has also been developed at Slingsby plant for use in harbours and inland waterways, and this can remove up to ten tons of oil an hour.

First production units of the mini-skimmer came off the special assembly line in Yorkshire early in 1975, and the device is capable of dealing with all types of oil from gas oil to very viscous bunker oils.



Survey found too few US accidents reported

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, April 24

The most serious oil pollution caused by oil-drilling off the United States was in the Santa Barbara channel off Southern California in 1969. A well being drilled by the Union Oil Company burst below the ocean floor in January and attempts to clear the beaches and stop the flood of oil lasted for months.

Accidents on drilling rigs including ones involving injury or death are fairly frequent. The United States Coast Guard and the Department of the Interior, which regulate offshore oil-drilling, have made a number of surveys of safety on the rigs, trying to isolate factors which could prove dangerous.

One discovery made during a safety survey undertaken by the Interior Department was that there tends to be inadequate reporting of accidents and equipment failures. The men on the spot prefer to repair the damage and replace the faulty equipment quickly.

Officials would like all incidents, however trivial they appear, to be reported so that the frequency of incidents can be measured and underlying causes studied.

Pollution fund of £6.7m

Most of the major oil companies working in the North Sea are contributing to an oil pollution compensation fund, which stands at about £6.7m, to pay for damage and remedial measures. There are no international agreements on liability to cover all possible damage from such accidents.

Dr Soares returns with promises of US aid

From Jose Sherriff
Lisbon, April 24

Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, returned home yesterday with promises of this weekend confident of American aid, to Portugal though he has still not clinched the \$150m (£90m) international loan proposed by the United States.

The money will be used to stabilize the economy and develop it towards the goal of becoming a full member of the European Economic Community.

The United States share in this loan is \$550m and will be available in June. Portugal's formal request for membership of the EEC was lodged with the Community last month.

During his visit to the United States, Dr Soares conferred with President Carter and with the heads of important banking companies and industrialists who are interested in investing in Portugal.

In New York he was given the award of the League for the Rights of Man for his contribution to fighting for human freedoms.

On his return, he announced that Mr Robert McNamara, President of the World Bank, had confirmed an emergency credit to buy wheat from the United States and the development of housing, hospitals and schools in Portugal.

On Wednesday, Dr Soares will go to Coimbra to attend the Council of Europe foreign ministers' meeting.

Tomorrow Portugal celebrates the third anniversary of the revolution which toppled the Caetano regime.

The celebrations, which begin at midnight with a huge fireworks display in the capital, include a special session tomorrow of Parliament, which the President, General Ramalho Eanes, will attend, a parade in Lisbon by 3,000 troops and 500 army vehicles as well as festivities throughout the country.

These will cost about 15m escudos (about £330,000).

Leading article, page 17

Fascist group claims it planted bombs

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, April 24

An unknown group calling itself the "Fascist Action Front" has claimed responsibility for blowing up the new £2m trade union employment centres in Grenoble yesterday morning.

Two explosions were followed by a fire which devastated the building and destroyed trade union records.

Danish newspaper dispute settled

From Geoffrey Dodd
Copenhagen, April 24

Danish newspaper publishers and printing union leaders reached a compromise today on terms for ending the dispute which has prevented publication of almost all Danish papers since April 1. Printers are expected to return to work tomorrow so that the newspapers can publish normal Tuesday editions.

This compromise, however, will not end the conflict at Berlingske Tidende which has been going on since January 30. Although this dispute continues, the 228-year-old newspaper will publish a 16-page emergency edition tomorrow without printing union members. It will continue until some form of agreement can be reached with the union.

No details of the compromise agreement have been published, but Mr Mogens Hoeyer, chairman of the lithographers' union, said at the end of negotiations early today that it dealt with the main issues involved.

The settlement came as the Association of Newspaper Employers and the printing unions were threatened by the growing defections among their members.

The dispute began as a sympathy action to enforce the union demands on Berlingske Tidende, Denmark's biggest newspaper group, which accounts for about a quarter of total Danish newspaper sales and employs some 1,000 printing union members. The Berlingske management announced in January that it expected to make a loss of between £2m and £4m in 1977, unless drastic savings were made. Its proposals to reduce the printing cost by about one third set off a campaign of deliberate obstruction by the printers. It January 30 the management sent the printers home.

Even the unions have admitted that Berlingske's printing staff was unnecessarily large but they refused to accept the introduction of labour-saving technology without job-saving guarantees.

After the printing employees had ignored two labour court rulings ordering them to return to work, they were finally dismissed. Since the unions and management have negotiated repeatedly without reaching agreement, the dispute seems likely to mean the closure of at least three of Denmark's 50 or so newspapers. Several other papers are from the same group as Berlingske.

Spanish Communists angered by royal flag

Valladolid, April 24

The first legal public meeting of the Spanish Communist Party to be held in Spain since the civil war was disrupted several times here last night by party militants expressing disagreement with the central committee's decision to display the flag of the monarchy.

Some 10,000 people turned out for the meeting, which was addressed by Señor Santiago Carrillo, the party secretary-general, who emphasized that to consolidate democracy, it was necessary to be intelligent politically as well as brave.

To win over new followers and neutralize enemies, "We have taken a step that many people do not understand," he said. Earlier in the day, Señor Carrillo had told a session of the Madrid provincial committee that the party would support the monarchy, its democratic course, without abandoning its Marxist outlook.

There were some republicans with the worst sort of fascist regimes; on the other hand, popular revolutions had sometimes carried out with a king on the throne, he said.

Yesterday Señor Carrillo, Calvo Sotelo, the Minister of Public Works, resigned from the Cabinet apparently to stand as a right-wing candidate in the forthcoming parliamentary elections. Cabinet ministers, other than the Prime Minister, are banned from running in elections arranged for June 15.

Señor Suarez left for Mexico today. Diplomatic relations between Spain and Mexico were restored last month. Agence France-Presse and Reuters.

Tommy Cooper rests after heart attack

Rome, April 24—Tommy Cooper, the English comedian, is resting in an Italian nursing home after suffering a heart attack, according to sources close to him.

Mr Cooper, aged 55, came to Rome for a special show for British employees in a big international company.

Shortly before the show was due to start in Rome, Mr Cooper collapsed. He was taken to the Hotel last Friday, Mr Cooper complained that he was not feeling well.

The comedian returned to the hotel yesterday. The sources said: "He looked much better then, but said he was going to rest in a private home for a while." The location of the nursing home was not disclosed.

—Reuters.

Unemployed call for action in Naples march

Rome, April 24—More than 30,000 unemployed youths from all over Italy marched through Naples yesterday calling on the Government to take urgent action to provide more jobs.

The march was organized by the communist-dominated trade unions, the Communist Party and the Italian Council of the unemployed. There were no incidents.

Many demonstrators carried posters expressing solidarity with the police. A young policeman was shot dead during the march.

The youth union on Thursday called for closer cooperation between students and workers.

Experts seek EEC strategy to conserve energy

By Roger Barthoud

If the United States needs an energy plan, then Europe, which is more dependent on imports, needs one even more urgently. This was the main conclusion of a high-level, weekend seminar at Ditchley Park near Oxford organized by the Franco-British Council, which was set up by the late President Pompidou and Mr Heath in 1972 to promote economic, technological and cultural contacts.

Those attending the conference, including MPs and officials from both countries, want the three main institutions of the EEC to set up an inquiry into the Community's future energy requirements.

The participants deplored the continuing failure of the EEC to produce and implement a coherent energy strategy. This had been highlighted by President

Carter's recent proposals. They believe that only a joint venture by the Council of Ministers, the European Commission and the European Parliament could produce the right sort of impetus for fulfilling the energy strategy.

The conference called for small groups, nominated by the three institutions, to take evidence in the nine member states and their findings to be announced in a manner calculated to galvanize public opinion.

A meeting of the Council of Ministers or of the European Council should be committed to take decisions on these findings.

Those taking part in the seminar expressed considerable anxiety over the likely impact of the entry of Greece, Turkey or Spain on the EEC's energy situation and general economic political cohesion.

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Texan expert is accused of 'scaremongering'

By Our Energy Correspondent

Allegations by Mr Paul (Red) Adair, the Texan oil fire-fighter, that plans and equipment for combating blow-outs are inadequate, were dismissed as "scaremongering" last night.

The United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association, which represents oil companies working in the North Sea, said that it was well aware of the hazards and had not been complacent. It had developed an organization for coordinating all the fire-fighting facilities provided by the oil companies working in the North Sea.

A fleet of fire-fighting vessels built and operated by the association on behalf of the oil

companies had been considered but rejected. The association had looked at four or five designs for specialist vessels, including one submitted by Mr Adair, an official said. But it had decided that coordinating the facilities introduced by various companies was the most efficient safeguard against disaster.

The difficulty with specialist semi-submersible fire-fighting vessels, suggested by Mr Adair, was that of expense. They would be costly to build and would be lying idle most of the time. Most companies considered the semi-submersible too slow and preferred conventional fire-fighting ships that could reach the scene of a fire or blow-out quickly.

The man who fights oil well blow-outs

From Peter Strafford
New York, April 24

Mr Paul Adair, or Red Adair as he is generally known, is the man who is almost always called in to handle big blow-outs. He is something of a legend in the oil business, and his company, based in Houston, has acquired its skills fighting hundreds of blow-outs of oil and gas all over the world.

Only a month ago, in an interview with the BBC, Mr

Adair gave a warning that a blow-out of this sort could occur at any time in the North Sea.

The company is a small one, headed by Mr Adair, who is 62. One of his team is Mr Boots Hansen, now on the spot in the North Sea, another Mr Adair's son, Mr Jimmy Adair. Like much of the oil business, they are a product of the old, rough days of the industry, which built the slick image and carpeted offices in Houston.

Mr Adair himself is a wealthy man. But he and his associates leave the life of comfort at the drop of a hat and plunge into the dirty and dangerous business of fighting blow-outs.

Over the years Mr Adair and his associates have fought blow-outs in the Sahara desert, the Persian Gulf, Mozambique and the Gulf of Mexico. Mr Adair's own view is that no two jobs are alike and that there are "a million little tricks to it."

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No details of the compromise

OVERSEAS

Mr van der Byl demands guerrillas scale down war before Rhodesia settlement talks begin

From Michael Knipe
Victoria Falls, Rhodesia
April 24

Mr Pieter van der Byl, the Rhodesian Foreign Minister, said today that the Rhodesian Government would not scale down the guerrilla war until the settlement talks began.

He was not optimistic that the war would ease, he said, and it had never happened.

He said it was difficult to tell whether Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, the African nationalist leaders, were in a position to scale down the guerrilla war. He said that if they were, it was a sign of weakness.

"If you get your man on the run, you must go on chasing him," he said. "It is very well with the Rhodesians. It will put him in the frame of mind of letting the devil take the whole thing."

Mr van der Byl said that if the war continued with this approach, it was risking putting everything back to "square one."

He said this point had been put firmly to Dr Owen during the British Foreign Secretary's visit to Rhodesia last week. Mr van der Byl conceded that Dr Owen had called on the Rhodesian Government to show its good faith by repudiating its remaining racially discriminatory legislation, stopping its practice of hanging nationalist guerrillas and releasing political detainees, but said that, at the same time, the West should stop supporting it with these additional plinkies.

The scrapping of all discriminatory race legislation could come about "reasonably soon," he said, but the mechanics of it were complicated.

Mr van der Byl made it clear that the "final decision" on any settlement terms will be in the hands of Rhodesia's present all-white Parliament and that the terms will have to be passed by a two-thirds majority. He said he was confident the Government could get the backing of Parliament for any settlement it regarded as reasonable.

Asked if the Rhodesian Front was prepared for the possibility of majority rule next year, Mr van der Byl said it was ready but it was not simply

Zaire rebels facing loss of two towns

Kinshasa, April 24.—Zaire and Moroccan troops today appeared poised to recapture Mupsharsha and Kapanga, two of the main towns in Zaire's embattled Shaba province. Zaire radio said their recapture was expected "from one moment to the next."

Western military specialists in Kinshasa said that Katangian rebels were retreating from their positions without offering any resistance to the two columns of pro-government forces outside the towns.

Zaire troops were reported to be spearheading the offensive, backed up by Moroccan troops equipped with mortars and artillery and war-painted pygmy warriors armed with bows and poison-tipped arrows. The rebels seized Mupsharsha and Kapanga shortly after invading Shaba on March 8.

President Mobutu was today in Kolwezi, the copper-mining centre of Shaba, and there was speculation that he was visiting Mupsharsha if it is shortly retaken.

Zaire officials had no confirmation of reports that napalm was being used against the rebels, said by Zaire to have crossed from Angola with the connivance of the Marxist rulers there and their Cuban and Soviet backers. The three states deny involvement in the rebellion. Agence France Presse and Reuters.

Algiers, April 24.—President Nto of Angola said in Algiers on his way to Scandinavia last night that the fighting in Zaire involved a "false invasion" and was a "purely internal problem."

He accused "imperialism" of being behind the development in Zaire, and said the problem there was distracting attention from the situation in Western Sahara.

The Polisario Front, which is fighting for independence in Western Sahara, reported last night that its forces had killed 61 Moroccan soldiers last week. Spain transferred power in the territory to Morocco and Mauritania last year.—AP and Reuters.

Argentine police release British editor after 24 hours in jail

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, April 24

Mr Robert Cox, the British editor of the Buenos Aires Herald, was released by Argentine police last night after 24 hours' detention. He had been held, however, that he would have to stand trial for publishing unauthorized information.

The arrest of Mr Cox by two plain-clothes policemen on Friday evening caused concern here because, at the time, three prominent Argentine journalists were being held by the military and without charge; two others have disappeared, reportedly after abduction by heavily-armed plain-clothes men, and another was found murdered last month.

Mr Cox's comment after his release last night was an expression of relief that he had been dealt with under normal legal procedures: "I do think it is a great thing that due process of law has been carried out in this case," he said. "If I eventually have to go to jail, at least it will be jail, and legal."

Mr Cox, originally of Ealing, London, has worked on the Buenos Aires Herald, an English-language newspaper, for 18 years and has been editor since 1959. He is married to an Argentine wife and has five children. He regards Argentina as his home and has spoken out consistently for human rights.

Mr Cox was told the case relates to his publication on Thursday of a report from Rome on a press conference by leaders of the neo-Fascist Montoneros guerrillas. He was told that the punishment can be between two and six years' jail.

Another journalist, Señor Enrique Jara, was also released last night. Señor Jara, deputy manager of the Independent newspaper, La Opinión, had been held without charge by the Army since 20 armed men in civilian clothes seized him with La Opinión's publisher, Señor Jacobo Timerman, on April 15.

Señor Jara was freed after nine days of questioning about a scandal linking the Montoneros with a big financial group. Señor Timerman is also being held in connection with the case and the Army has handed him over to the Government for further investigation.



Mr Robert Cox: "At least it will be legal."

Kidnapped minister's photograph published

San Salvador, April 24.—A photograph of El Salvador's Foreign Minister in captivity was published here today in an apparent attempt to show that he was alive and well.

The morning newspaper Diario de Hoy printed the photograph on its front page. It showed Señor Mauricio Borbonero, with several days' growth of beard, sitting in front of a guerrilla banner.

The banner carried the initials of the Popular Liberation Forces, a small urban guerrilla group which kidnapped the minister last Tuesday, and the hammer and sickle emblem. Police said there was no reason to doubt that the photograph was genuine.

Hopes for Señor Borbonero's release rose yesterday when the guerrillas announced they would insist on the Government freeing a total of 37 political prisoners as they had originally demanded. But the kidnappers did not say how many prisoners they now wanted set free and allowed to leave the country.

They reduced their demands after President Molina said the Government was holding only three of the 37 people on the list and three others came forward to say they were at liberty here.

But there was still confusion over the numbers, because the families of three other people on the list insisted that they were still missing after being arrested.

The guerrillas have threatened to kill the Foreign Minister, a 39-year-old American-educated businessman, if their demands are rejected. But they have set no deadline.

In their latest communiqué, the fourth since the kidnapping, the guerrillas said Señor Borbonero was in good health but they ruled out any cash deal with his family.—Reuters.

Polish dissidents held in raid on home

Warsaw, April 24.—Six members of the Polish Workers' Defence Committee and one supporter were reported under detention in Warsaw and Radom over the weekend as the authorities kept up pressure on the dissident civil rights group.

Five of the committee members were detained last night, when police raided a Warsaw flat where they were meeting, according to dissident sources. The sixth, and a woman assistant, were picked up on Friday in the town of Radom, where they had gone to observe a legal hearing.

Mr Jan Olszewski, a lawyer, who defended some of the workers arrested during last year's food price riots, was detained along with the committee members but was released after an identity check.

The two held in Radom, Mr Mirosław Chojcicki and Miss Bogusława Biejska, were later released.

Last weekend three members of the committee—set up last September to aid workers jailed or dismissed in the wake of the riots—and four supporters were held for interrogation for up to 48 hours but refused to answer police questions.

Police may hold people for up to 48 hours without charges.—Reuters.

Five children killed in car race crash

Kuala Lumpur, April 24.—Five children were killed and 19 other people injured when a car taking part in the Malaysian Grand Prix here today went off the track and crashed into a group of spectators.

A Malaysian driver, Mr Harvey Yap, was driving his Ford Escort BDA down a straight at an estimated 130 to 150 miles an hour when it swerved and crashed into the fence, a police official said.

The children, aged five to 13, were standing behind the fence. Mr Yap and the injured spectators were taken to hospital.—Agence France-Presse and AP.

Ethiopia closes six consulates in Eritrea

Addis Ababa, April 24.—Ethiopia's military rulers, who yesterday ordered four American facilities to be shut down today, announced the closure of the American and French consulates in the northern Eritrean cities of Asmara and Massawa.

The American, Italian and Sudanese consulates and the honorary consulates of Belgium, France and Britain were ordered closed immediately.

The American facilities ordered closed yesterday were the United States Information Service cultural centre, a radio communications station in the Eritrean capital of Asmara, the military assistance advisory group, and the medical research unit. About 100 American staff were given four days to leave.

A Government announcement accused the late Emperor Haile Selassie of entering into an agreement with the Americans to set up four organizations to support the interests of his regime and those of the United States Government. To continue the radio operations "not only directly contradicts with Ethiopia's guiding socialist ideology but also opposes her foreign policy of non-alignment."

The American Embassy has not been directly affected by the decision and no comments were available from it on the move.

Ethiopia's military government is now seeking Soviet assistance.

In Washington, the State Department said the United States was protesting at the "short deadline period".—AP.

Tanzania presses Kenya to hand over ships and planes

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, April 24

Tanzania has demanded that Kenya should hand over aircraft and ships as the price for reopening of the border between the two countries.

The Tanzanians believe that the joint-venture East African Airways and East African Railways, which have broken off the East African community.

Tanzania closed the border in February, cutting off Kenya's valuable export trade to Tanzania and Zambia.

A Tanzanian statement at the weekend gives the full details of the demands made on Kenya, and says these are not subject to discussion. The list includes the modern passenger ship Victoria, a train ferry and an oil tanker, which have been laid up at Kisumu, the Kenyan port on Lake Victoria, for two years because Kenya claims that the ship failed to provide funds to finance part of their running costs.

Kenya has been complaining about the seizure of about thirty Kenyan aircraft and the seizure of the Victoria, which the border was closed, and has been pressing for the release of this property.

Tanzania alleged today that 50 Tanzanians were being held as hostages in western Kenya, against a demand by the local provincial commissioner for the release of a Kenyan Government vehicle impounded in Tanzania.

Grandmaster's record 24 hours of chess

Reykjavik, April 24.—Vlastimil Hort, the Czechoslovak grandmaster, today broke a 37-year-old record for simultaneous chess by playing 550 games in 24 hours and 20 minutes.

The previous record of 400 simultaneous games was set by Gideon Ståhlberg, the Swedish master, in Buenos Aires in 1940.

Hort said after his marathon in a local school that his feet were very tired—he had covered over 12 miles, generally taking only three or four seconds a move—but his mind was still clear and he could have continued. He had 477 wins, 63 draws and 10 defeats.—Reuters.

Japan starts up its fast breeder reactor

Osaka, Japan, April 24.—Japan's first experimental fast breeder reactor went into operation today, the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation announced here.

Japan thus became the fifth nation with a reactor which can produce more plutonium than it consumes. The others are the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France.

The reactor's output will be raised to its full capacity at the end of next month and further experiments will be conducted until next March, the corporation said. It will be used for basic experiments only and not for generating power.—Reuters.

New York haven for 'nomad kids'

From Peter Strafford
New York, April 24

One street away from Times Square, in Eighth Avenue, in the heart of New York's pornography district, is a clean wooden door with "Under 21" written on it. It is the entrance to a new rescue operation, designed to help youngsters who have been ensnared into a world of corruption and drugs and want to get out.

The official title of the building is Covenant House. It is run by Father Bruce Ritter, a Franciscan who is appalled by the way youngsters, some only 12-year-olds, are caught up in the world around Times Square and then, if they want to escape from it, have no one to turn to.

The idea, he says, is that anyone can come to Covenant House, where no questions will be asked. No pressure will be brought to bear, but attempts will be made to help. He adds that in the first three and a half weeks after it opened last month, some 400 youngsters sought help.

These children are victims of modern conditions, Father Ritter says, but in many ways they are comparable to those of "nomad kids" among all of whom come from broken families, or ones which no longer exist or in which they felt unwanted.

Some of them are from New York, others from as far away as California or New Mexico. The ones from out of town

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Brian Iles is Sales and Marketing Director at the Liner Concrete Machinery Co. Ltd., Gateshead. Clive Wakley is Export Sales Manager.

Liner Concrete have been manufacturing contractors plant and site handling equipment since 1916. Construction of another factory to handle new product expansion is now almost complete.

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From Robert Fisk
Cairo, April 24

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, will find Egypt more anxious than ever the Britain should play a prominent role in Middle East peace-making, when he starts his talks in Cairo tomorrow with Egyptian ministers and officials.

During a morning meeting, Mr Tariq Fahmy, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, is expected to urge Dr Owen to give Britain's wholehearted support to the setting up of a Palestinian state on the West Bank of the Jordan and to take a leading role in the security guarantees that Egypt believes should follow a Geneva peace agreement.

No one in Cairo expects Dr Owen suddenly to commit Britain to any dramatic new initiative while he is in the Middle East. British diplomatic interest in Africa has centred so exclusively on the southern part of the continent in recent years that not since 1970, when Sir Alec Douglas-Home (now Lord Home of

27 Israelis hurt by bus bomb

Kiryat Gat, April 24.—Twenty-seven Israelis on their way to work near this desert town were injured early today when a bomb exploded in the bus.

The police rounded up nearly 50 Arabs from the occupied West Bank of Jordan who within 10 minutes earlier had arrived on the same bus to work in Kiryat Gat, a southern Israeli township.

Half of the Israeli passengers were released from hospital after receiving first aid for cuts from flying glass. Four people were operated on, but the condition of those still in hospital was described as not serious.

Police engineers were trying to find out what type explosives were used.

This is the first time in several months that Israelis have been hurt in apparent Arab guerrilla action inside the country.—Reuter.

Poor countries gain concessions

Lomé convention, linking 46 European Community, was signed amid much pomp and circumstance in the Togolese capital, Mr Sonny Ramphal, then the Guyanese Foreign Minister, was the only participant to inject a cautionary note into the otherwise euphoric proceedings.

The new agreement, praiseworthy though it was, represented only a first step towards greater co-operation between Europe and its former colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), he said. "It would be an essay in self-deception for us to believe that the document we sign today fulfils all those ideals, and it would be a dangerous pretence for us to imply that it does."

In common with many international agreements, the five-year convention represented a midway compromise between the often conflicting interests of rich and poor. Since it came into effect, the ACP countries have skillfully used every opportunity available to them to press for better terms than they managed to secure during the negotiations which led to the original deal.

On such occasion took place this month when EEC and ACP ministers met in Fiji for their second annual stocktaking of the way the convention is operating. A first gathering in Brussels last summer produced so many complaints from the ACP countries, particularly in the trade sector, that leading representatives from both sides had to meet later in the year to try to resolve some of the more technical disputes.

The latest meeting was in

the Fiji Prime Minister and ACP countries, and some late night bargaining sessions produced several, albeit modest, trade concessions from the Community.

With the notable exception of some significant trading difficulties, ACP representatives returning to Brussels from Fiji conceded that the convention is now working reasonably smoothly after a shaky start.

The most controversial topic since the convention was signed has been considerable dissatisfaction among ACP countries, mainly Commonwealth sugar producers over various aspects of the terms of their agreement to sell up to 1,250,000 tonnes of cane sugar to the Community a year. Since the sugar arrangements first came into force two years ago, Caribbean countries like Guyana and Jamaica have been trying, largely unsuccessfully, so far, to persuade the Community to modify its interpretation of some of the rules.

One of the main irritants has been the price level and the way in which it is calculated. The original agreement specified that ACP producers should receive a price comparable to that granted to European beet sugar producers. But the ACP countries maintain they have been short-changed by a number of factors including a requirement to pay storage levies in the Community in addition to those already paid in their own countries.

One problem which was resolved was Fiji, however, was the Community's unilateral decision to cut back sugar supply quotas for a handful of mainly African producers who

Peking, April 24—Chinese newspapers were today filled with photographs of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng in a further promotion of the personality cult built around him since he succeeded Mao Tse-tung last October.

The *People's Daily* published 16 pictures of the Chinese leader in fields in the northern part of the city of Tientsin, a national industrial conference is in session.

The newspaper *Guang Ming* devoted almost its entire four pages to pictorial coverage of Mr Hua. Accompanying news items lauded him for "braving heavy snow and biting cold", to visit Taching.

Mr Hua, aged 56, was pictured in Mao-like poses greeting conference delegates, inspecting oil rigs and meeting with an all-woman drilling team.

Unlike on some previous occasions, Mr Hua did not share the spotlight with Mr Yeh Chien-ying, the vice-chairman of the party. Mr Yeh is

Hurstel) came here to attend President Nasser's funeral, has a British Foreign Secretary visited Cairo.

For its part, the British Embassy here has been emphasizing the importance of a tax agreement, which Dr. Owen will sign with Mr. Fahmy and which will assist British business in Egypt, rather than promoting speculation on the political consequences of his visit.

Nevertheless, Egyptian officials have been recalling that Dr. Owen is at present chairman of the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers and the Arab states have been making increasing play in recent weeks of the importance that attach to European involvement in a Middle East peace. Egypt has already suggested that Britain, France, West Germany and other Community countries should attend the Geneva talks.

One Egyptian official who will meet Dr. Owen has claimed that Britain still had an historic role to play in the Middle East.

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, April 24

As Mr Rabin stepped down as Prime Minister this weekend after a disclosure that he kept bank accounts in America in contravention of the foreign currency regulations, the government began investigating a complaint that Mr Abba Eban, the former Foreign Minister, had dollars in a New York bank.

But in contrast to Mr Rabin, who admitted violating the law, Mr Eban said he kept a 10-year currency abroad because of his international literary and academic activities.

He also revealed today that he had money in a British bank. He claimed that he brought tens of thousands of dollars to Israel through the proper channels.

Mr Eban, who was dropped from the Government in 1974 when Mr Rabin came to power, is expected to become Foreign

Countries gain co

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By David Watts

Mr Muhammad Ata Suleman Akel, from a village on the West Bank near Abu Basma, was arrested in 1975 during a period of generative unrest in the occupied territories. According to his lawyer, he is a smallholder and owns a cow.

For nine months, he was in prison before being brought to trial on four charges: belonging to the shadow PAF, working for the PNF, working for the PNF, flying the Palestinian flag and recruiting and distributing pamphlets calling on students and villagers to go on strike in protest against the Israel military occupation.

The prosecution claimed that he had confessed to the charges, but Mr Akel retraced his confession, claiming that he had obtained under severe physical torture. At his within-trial, held to determine the validity of the confession, Mr Akel said he was blindfolded and beaten by troops in a cell on the way to the police station. He claimed he was stripped naked at the police station and interrogated by three security guards who turned in leading him who were naked and legs.

The three interrogators named by Mr Akel denied the allegations; they said he confessed of his own free will. The presiding judge said he had found contrary to what Mr Akel's evidence but did not specify the evidence and accepted word of the interrogators.

During his trial, Mr Akel declared that he was opposed to violence but he refused to apologize for non-violent resistance. He was sentenced to three and a half years in prison.

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Tanks shoot at leftists in Beirut

Beirut, April 24.—The troops of the Arab peace-keeping force used tanks and machine guns today to attack left-wing gunmen in Beirut.

The shooting started at night and continued after the force announced arrest of four men allegedly involved in the killing of two Syrian soldiers on Friday.

An official spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organization said no guerrilla groups were involved, but they were worried about the Syrian tentations.

Other sources agreed that the main faction involved in the fighting was the pro-Lebanese "Nasserite" organization, the "Nasser Forces," whose leader, Hu Khissan, al-Arab, believed to be in Baghdad.

The group was confined to a district near the Corniche Marra, where Mr. Arab's faction holds sway. The Palestinian stronghold of Sabra is by Beirut.

The PLO spokesman said the group was "involved." He said Palestinian leaders were making contact to try to calm the situation.

In the past eight days, the Syrian and pro-Israeli guerrillas have been active in the Christian and Muslim districts in southern Lebanon.

Egypt carrying weapons bombs. Meanwhile, the Egyptian Middle East news agency said that travellers returning from Libya as saying there had been an abortive assassination attempt last week on Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader.

The agency said a Libyan national shot Colonel Gaddafi in the arm and then took to his own life.

It also quoted the travel agency as saying that anti-Gaddafi forces were being distributed in the Libyan coastal city of Benghazi following the alleged "execution of scores of young Libyans". Colonel Gaddafi called on loyalist troops to down any eventual popular uprising.

The Egyptian newspaper *Al-Akhar* said today that Colonel Gaddafi had appeared in Tripoli, Benghazi and Tobruk. It also said that the army was taking up positions around key buildings—Reuters and Agence France-Presse.

Football

By Norman Fox

When the rain left Maine Road awash only a few minutes before the kick off on Saturday, hopes of Liverpool and Everton producing a memorable FA Cup semi-final were doused. The puddles and mud did indeed affect the course of the game, but only adding unpredictable moments to matching excitement, and doubts were swept away by a torrent of adventures. Finally, after two worthy teams had exhausted themselves and finished undecided at two goals each, there was the palpable prospect of a replay at the same ground on Wednesday, though it would be gratuitous to expect as much again.

There was a rare semi-final, prepared from the beginning by local rivalry, and given special interest by Liverpool's dream of winning the FA Cup. The rain cast as much gloom on the occasion as it did on the man who would dream of defeating Liverpool from one of the trillieral quests, were it not for the unlucky circumstances of the first half, but after such a performance, they go into the replay as underdogs with a price tag that the underdog would be fine enough to

[illegible]

Vy Geoffrey Green, Northern strong winds, pass showers, swirling down from the north, will prevent Manchester United reaching Wembley for their second successive FA Cup final on May 25. The elements came hissing over the Pennines; the first rain fell at Hillsborough, pointing the way to the future and it was Manchester who took the blows. With two formidable forwards—Greenfield and Coppell—the opening quarter of an hour to leave the White Rose sanctum.

Mary had thought that greater experience of League football would have helped her understand the middle-class Frank Gray who controlled affairs. Events proved otherwise. They needed to know how to handle a man like Eddie Leeds before he could inspire a crowd. Leeds from as side until the end of the game. When the second half gave them a 2-

More outsiders needed in Ipswich

By Olive White

Bobby Robson, the Ipswich Town manager, called the game home to Middlesbrough on Saturday the key one; defeat was thinkable. As it happened Ipswich lost 1-0 and Mr Robson gave plenty to think on, most of all his side's lack of goals. The truth is Ipswich lose the title a month ago when injuries irreparable men like Beattie and Madsen leave the team.

On Saturday Ipswich were stepped of Mills and Wark, not mention again Beattie who only bursts on the neck still heal after his bonfire accident recently, is it any wonder that Robson fears a game of six might end in a broken wrist.

The conclusion is, of course, that Ipswich do not have enough outstanding players in their present championship.

Their young reserves have potential but not the knowledge. It is ironic and pertinent that the two new recruits, starting by riding their own injury crisis, reserves of the calibre of John — an Ipswich idol until only last year.

The rhythm of the Ipswich team has been temporarily broken by Mariner, himself returning after two-to-three seasons, to tune with Wythmark as he attempted to break down the defence of the traditionally solid Middlesbrough house—the one that Mr Charlton built so sturdily over the last four years. The Ipswich crowd, two-to-three seasons ago, was the start. Before the end we will

FA Cup semi-finals
Everton 2 Liverpool
 (at Maine Road)
Leeds 1 Manchester Utd

[illegible]

quizzical McKenzie was to make it his. Essentially the match was as stepped in the snow, but McKenzie was the value to Everton assess. The game seemed unable to progress through a quality of individual expression that was never unnecessarily extravagant. McKenzie caught the eye in the second half by winning the penalty area, but his play was more effective in the half. Goodlass served a variety of thoughtful centres into the wing and McKenzie was always snapping at the ball regularly dropped into his range. Clemence saved his close defence and again took the ball before Liverpool could pass. When Keegan was fouled, the ball inside the penalty area. McDermott had to confuse Buckley into thinking he was going to take the ball. He then took the ball over the reach of Lawson for a delightful goal. Rich and Dobson worked outstandingly in the middle of the pitch. In an important stage when Liverpool might have gathered momentum and before the ball was over the game was won. The highest of the Everton slipped across the goalmouth. The ball was slightly deflected, tearing away from Clemence into the corner of

the goal.

For all of this time Liverpool had been noticeably tense. It was, by their own admission, their most difficult test of a varied and demanding season. They began to stride into a more un-in towards the finish, Keegan, who had tended to busy himself with lost causes, suddenly began to appear in the first half, bringing great joy from Lawson. Keegan had lost some of his appetite for the game when falling awkwardly in the first half, but now moved gracefully, floating through the Kennedy gained some midfield territory and a decisive influence was Johnson, brought on to replace Fairclough.

ing glimpse of survival over a tussling last 20 minutes. It was a disaster as the match suddenly pivoted on a knife edge.

Victory, however, finally went to the right team. In spite of their difficulties.

The master who played with a carefree air of enjoyment and the sense of balance added to attack of the elder year by year from Stoke. If the wind often blew mores oft course nonetheless there were no less penetrating involving Coppell, Pearson, J. Greenboth and Others which frequently had the Leeds defence on the wrong foot.

One of the keys was the freedom won by Coppell and the unpredictable Hill down the left though the tactical rigidity of intelligence was often wasted promiscuity in the middle. It was those two wingers who achieved the vital, open seams in the solid defense.

After only seven minutes Coppell won a corner on the right

[illegible]

Second division

Burnley	1	Chelton	0
Carlisle U	3	Plymouth Argyle	1
Culham	0	Weymouth	0

[illegible]

the moment when a cup the s
angers. Clemence gesticulates at
(right) and Dobson express quit

Johnson was keenly trying to make an impact when a high free-kick was floated into the goalmouth. His fresh efforts helped Dublin Lawton, who hurriedly flitted to a ball upon every for Case to break back, giving Liverpool a lead which threatened to keep Lawton out of the game. But Lawton did save a good shot as the pressure decreased, but then McKenzie appeared unexpectedly and danger lay close to the Liverpool goal. The left Smith scrying the air and the hand reaching for the ball, he avoided the defence, was detected enough to unsettle the nameless who was unable to reach Doch's equalizing shot.

Everton lifted themselves for a

[illegible]

Ominous sum- Spurs hope to

By Tom German

The clouds are gathering ominous about Tottenham Hotspur's shortzoo! A match without goals at Stoke on Saturday was less than they needed to encourage hopes that they might yet disperse, but rather more that Spurs overcame on the day. Stoke, on top for much of the second half, will still be alarming because twice when they were in the lead, Tottenham missed the chance to extend the lead the referee thought otherwise.

So with only three matches still to play, while fellow falterers, Manchester United and Arsenal, the second division, croaking a beckoning finger, Stoke are rather better placed and should escape the ignominy but the match underlined again how fine is the line of accomplishment which separates the seven or eight sides scurrying for shelter.

There were individuals who made an imprint but a collective threat was often difficult to identify. Coates, Channing, left wing-backs, the strange left half pursuing Tottenham in the wind, and Tottenham's cause, particularly in the opening half when they showed essential readiness to go forward. He almost caught Shute in an unguarded moment, standing a stride or two off his line; a receptive stop from out on the edge was enough to crash in the foot of the post when the goal-keeper scuttled back in the nick of time.

Slowly, steadily, Stoke turned to match their way. Smith and Ford, seldom generous men; shut Tottenham out and Salmon, the

Third division			F
Lighten	1	Port. Vale	0
ry	7	Portsmouth	0

Shasta Field	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	100	0	0	0	0	0
Chaffetz Wild	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	0
Chaffetz	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	0
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assault and Goodman's left arm through the back of his head. He placed the centre to the right substitute, Hamilton, who was crushed by the force of the ball in, but Everton's defence rallied late. Hamilton fired for Liverpool but it was at that brought with it yet another burden: another strengthening to threaten their continuing greater prize, the European Cup.

Liverpool: A. Clemence; P. Neal; J. Duggan; R. Kennedy; G. Brown; K. Rowley; T. Case; S. Hargreaves; F. Smith; C. Jones; B. Deacon.

Everton: D. Lawson; T. Barnett; M. Walker; W. McNaughton; I. MacKenzie; M. Dobson; J. Hamilton; R. Goodlass.

Referee: C. Thomas (Trentham).

for Manchester & now seemed
sailing with a full splendor.
With 20 minutes' left an
extra penalty was as Michol
light down Jordan offered
himself to the right and
their tunnel. Even then Steppes
not saved. Clarke's shot from
spot. But—! I instead of
a different shot with Currie,
like him a bearer, with per-
sive footwork, and E. Gray just
with rising 20-yard shots.
Timer was over. Just a sec-
ond's place of F. Gray from midfield
Leeds did bravely.

Manchester, however, the more
calculate and arrived, the right
had a penalty near the end
and Resney flooded Bill. Send
triumphantly over of their Red
was well-disciplined for a
ange they prepare to make
ends for last year's disappoint-
and employ call

action

March 1906

[illegible]

North division

[illegible]

PORT

rugby Union

New Cardiff recruit steps up to win his spurs against Sydney

Peter West, Cardiff's new recruit, stepped up to the mark in his first game against Sydney, scoring a try and a penalty to help his side to a 17-10 victory.

West, who joined Cardiff from the Welsh national side, was in excellent form, scoring a try in the 15th minute and a penalty in the 25th. He also kicked a penalty in the 45th minute.

Cardiff's other players were also in good form, with several players scoring tries and penalties. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

The Cardiff loose trio of Worgan, Lane, and Pugh-Jones looked in hungry fettle, as it would be against Newport, but the most interesting performance for the home side was that of O'Brien, a stand-off half of rather scrappy physique and a recent recruit from Glamorgan Wanderers who appeared as an eleven-hour replacement for Paul Evans. He was not one of the usual scrappy players who are often recruited from the lower leagues, but a genuine talent.

Worgan, who was in excellent form, scored a try in the 15th minute. Lane, who was also in good form, scored a try in the 25th minute. Pugh-Jones, who was also in good form, scored a try in the 45th minute.

Cardiff's other players were also in good form, with several players scoring tries and penalties. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

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Cricket

Greig's fine form helps Sussex to victory

Tony Greig, the Sussex and England captain, was in sparkling form in leading his county to victory by 17 runs over Nottinghamshire at Hove yesterday in the Benson and Hedges Cup. He took five wickets for 40 runs and scored a century to lead his side to a 100-40 victory.

Greig's fine form was the key to Sussex's success. He was in excellent form, taking five wickets for 40 runs and scoring a century. His leadership was also a factor in the team's success.

Nottinghamshire required another 32 to win in 14.1 overs when Greig, in his first over, took a wicket. He then took a second wicket in the second over. He then took a third wicket in the third over. He then took a fourth wicket in the fourth over. He then took a fifth wicket in the fifth over.

Sussex's other players were also in good form, with several players scoring runs. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

Golf

Garrido finally wins his first big tournament

Antonio Garrido, the Spanish amateur, finally won his first big tournament, the 1977 Open de España, by a margin of one stroke over the runner-up, José María Olazábal.

Garrido, who was in excellent form, won the tournament by a margin of one stroke. He was in excellent form, winning the tournament by a margin of one stroke.

Poland had made up no ground in Europe last year, started out today and five clear of Abreu and Poland. At the turn there was only one stroke in it with Garrido out in 37 and Abreu, who picked up two birdies and an eagle, turned in a 68.

Leading scores in Madrid

278: A. Garrido, 71, 68, 69, 72, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

280: J. Olazábal, 72, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Another 68 for Watson

New Orleans, April 23.—Tom Watson, the United States Masters champion, scored an eagle at the 18th hole to bring his score to 68 in the first round of the 1977 United States Open.

Watson, who was in excellent form, scored an eagle at the 18th hole. He was in excellent form, scoring an eagle at the 18th hole.

Watson, who has also won the United States Open, was in excellent form. He was in excellent form, scoring an eagle at the 18th hole.

England's stand-off stands out on wing

Gordon Allan, playing in the left wing, Martin Cooper, the England stand-off, and three tries for Moseley against Leicester at the Reddings on Saturday. He did the same against Bridgend the week before.

Allan, who was in excellent form, scored a try in the 15th minute. Cooper, who was also in good form, scored a try in the 25th minute. Moseley, who was also in good form, scored a try in the 45th minute.

Leicester never looked like winning, even when, against the run of play, Hare opened the scoring with a penalty at the end of the first quarter. The forwards were struggling all the time at the lineouts and in the loose. They kept Moseley out for as long as they could, but he was in excellent form.

That power, of course, was generated by the Moseley forwards. They look like a more mature team, with a lot of experience. They were in excellent form, scoring a try in the 15th minute.

Southampton's purposeful opening partnership of 97 between Lloyd and Wood, Lancashire finished 18 runs behind Hampshire yesterday. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

Wattford's Derbyshire duty asserted their authority over the counties. West yesterday to win by 60 runs. Although the England team bowler, Hendrick, was confined to bed with influenza, the Derbyshire attack always had too much variation for the counties' club batsmen.

Chasing 306, they lost their first three wickets at 37 and their fourth at 38 before Burridge and Dunsford salvaged respect with a stand of 60 in an hour. Burridge, playing on his own club's ground, struck two sixes in a ball.

Jeff Thomson looked more worried by his run-out than his shoulder when the Australian had his first net at Lord's on Saturday. During a lively warm-up Thomson displayed all his old fury but did not always get his delivery stride right.

Watson, who has also won the United States Open, was in excellent form. He was in excellent form, scoring an eagle at the 18th hole.

Lancashire Cup dashed from Orrell's lips

By Tom Cooban. Liverpool 12. Twenty minutes of Herculean effort in extra time failed to produce a winning score in the Lancashire Cup final at Broughton Park, Manchester, yesterday. Each side scored four penalty goals and a try in the first half, but Liverpool's lead was wiped out in the second half.

After falling with two penalty shots early in the second half, Liverpool levelled with a try and a penalty. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

With more ball from scrum-mages and Hargrett, Cullen, the Liverpool scrum-half, brought his team back into the game. Great efforts were made to bring Stearns into action, and his international stature was unmistakable. In injury time he was successful in gaining the victory for his side.

Liverpool's winning of the toss enabled them to play with the wind in the first 10 minutes. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

Minor Counties West v Derby. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

Sussex v Hove. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

Today's cricket. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

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Rafter is sent off as Bristol lose

Michael Rafter, the England forward, was sent off five minutes from the end of Bristol's match against Coventry on Saturday. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

Coventry's playing in only his second game for Bristol, scored three tries in the 25-10 victory. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

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Rugby League

Featherstone mark title success with fine win

Featherstone 32 Workington 13. Featherstone Rovers celebrated their first title success in fine style yesterday, crushing weakened Workington Town with a 32-13 victory.

The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

Featherstone's playing in only his second game for Workington, scored three tries in the 32-13 victory. The match was a hard-fought affair, with both sides showing great determination.

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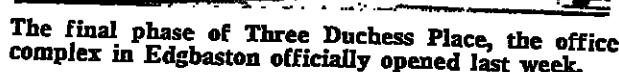
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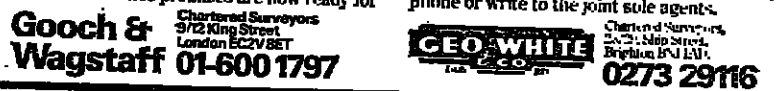
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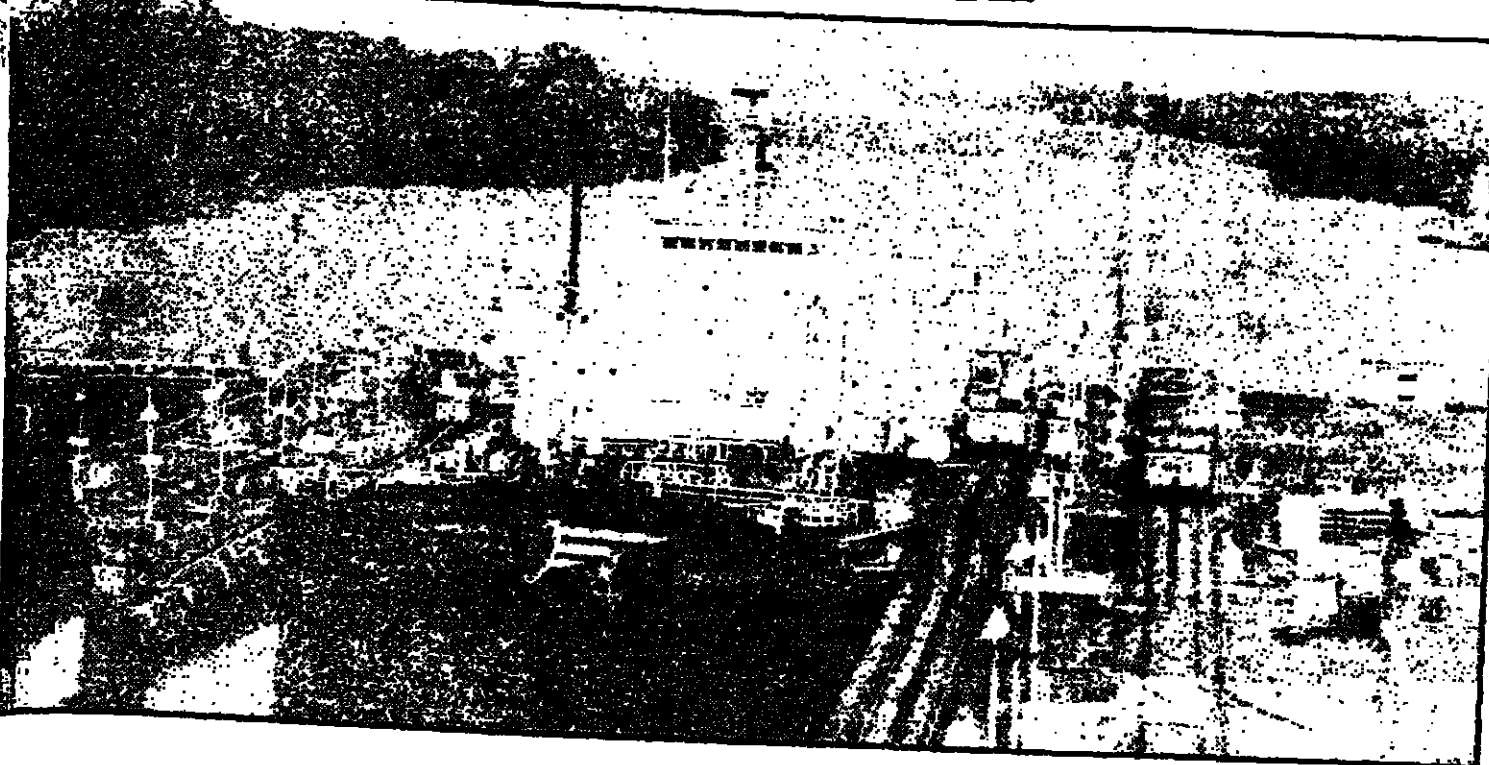
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After a new place in the world

Sidney Wise

More than 70 of the world's largest banks are which we built with our "giving away the canal out a bare existence on less than \$135 a year. High inflation imported from abroad is eroding further the meagre income of the poor.

Also to be reckoned with is the power of the shipping lobby in Washington which enjoys many benefits from United States operation of the canal.

The original 1903 treaty signed by Panama shortly after it gained independence from neighbouring Colombia granted the United States a strip of land 10 miles wide and 50 miles long for constructing, operating and defending a canal between the Atlantic and the Pacific. It also granted, in perpetuity, the right to act within that strip of land as "if it were the sovereign".

About 40,000 Americans, including 18,000 military, live and work in that strip of land, with their own schools, clubs and flag flying conspicuously over many buildings.

Riots in 1964 against the treaty led to the opening of negotiations between the two countries in 1967. They have continued sporadically for the past 10 years.

Complaining about the frustration of a decade of discussion without a solution, General Torrijos has stated that the object of the negotiations is to end perpetuity but not "to negotiate in perpetuity".

Efforts by both sides to resolve the remaining points in dispute.

General Torrijos is "the maximum leader" of the revolutionary government which seized power in a military coup in 1968, ending a decades-long reign by a small elite which dominated Panama's economic and political life.

A crafty, populist leader with the full backing of the National Guard, the country's only armed force, of which he is the commander, General Torrijos has attempted to steer Panama into a new nationalistic mould.

His aim seems to be to create a more liberal, diversified economy in which the public sector will play an increasingly greater role within a basically free enterprise system.

A labour code, which made it almost impossible to dismiss employees, upset the private sector and slowed new investment. But General Torrijos, in a display of his talent for pragmatism, removed last year many of the features which were most objectionable to the private sector.

His policies have been characterized as being aligned to the left of the centre of political activity. General Torrijos has the title of head of government but his power is almost unlimited with special executive authority to approve contracts and agreements, appoint Cabinet members and conduct foreign affairs.

Under his nine-year rule, publicized efforts have been made to improve the lot of the lower and middle classes, with mixed results. Despite heavy spending, deeply rooted problems still remain.

The Government admits to a figure of 250,000 suffering from malnutrition. Public health programmes are still very inadequate, with an annual mortality rate of 3.1 per cent of children under 12 months.

Although Panama has a per capita income of almost \$1,000, one of the highest in Latin America, about 25 per cent of the population eke

going ahead", Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta, Minister of Planning, says. "Of course, our task will be made much easier once the canal treaty problem is resolved."

But the short-term effect of a treaty solution will be mostly psychological since the generally accepted date for termination of the United States presence in Panama is about 2000.

Panama is impatient to start its new stage of development but first it must overcome the high inflation and the recession which have slowed economic growth to almost zero during the past two years.

However, given the success of Panama in using its strategic location to create a major international banking centre in only eight years, it is tempting to grant some credibility to Dr Barletta's plans for doing the same in other areas of finance and economic development.

A new international airport in an expanded free zone with Hongkong-type assembly plants is one more step being taken as part of a programme to convert Panama into a major international service centre.

Yet this economic transformation of the country is submerged by the more passionate political publicity over Panama's determination to end the canal's domination to Panama.

Playing David against US Goliath

"Sovereign Panama" is the slogan embossed on all 1977 car licence plates in Panama. Last year the slogan was "Bridge of the world heart of the universe".

"Panama is sovereign over the canal" is written in bold red letters on large white canvas sheets hanging from numerous buildings throughout the country.

They are part of an unrelenting campaign by the nation's chief executive, Brigadier General Omar Torrijos, who strikes a heroic pose as the nationalistic champion of Panamanian sovereignty and its struggle to end United States ownership of the canal and its zone.

He plays David against the Goliath of the United States and can scarcely fail to win wide popular domestic support.

It is difficult to take seriously the possibility of a war between a nation with a population of fewer than two million and an army of fewer than 10,000 against the military might of the United States.

Yet the threat of armed attack against the canal and its defenders in sabotage and guerrilla activities is a possibility suggested by Dr Kissinger in his efforts to give Panama sovereignty over the zone—remains a persuasive argument in the despatched negotiations.

Bombastic statements by Panama have diminished significantly during recent months as a prelude to the resumption of negotiations.

Privately both sides insist that total agreement is near and that accord, in principle, has been reached. Similar background statements issued previously by opposing negotiators leave room for scepticism, although it is generally agreed that the outlook for a settlement has recently improved.

While the United States has agreed to a termination of the present treaty, several thorny points remain. Among them are the exact date of the termination and the means of guaranteeing the neutrality of the canal once sovereignty is assumed by Panama.

Looming darkly behind the scenes is the need for approval of two-thirds of the Senate before ratification. Many senators still follow the Governor Reagan Latin America, about 25 per cent of the population eke

out a bare existence on less than \$135 a year. High inflation imported from abroad is eroding further the meagre income of the poor.

Illiteracy is being reduced and greater educational facilities are being made available. The number of university students has tripled during the past decade.

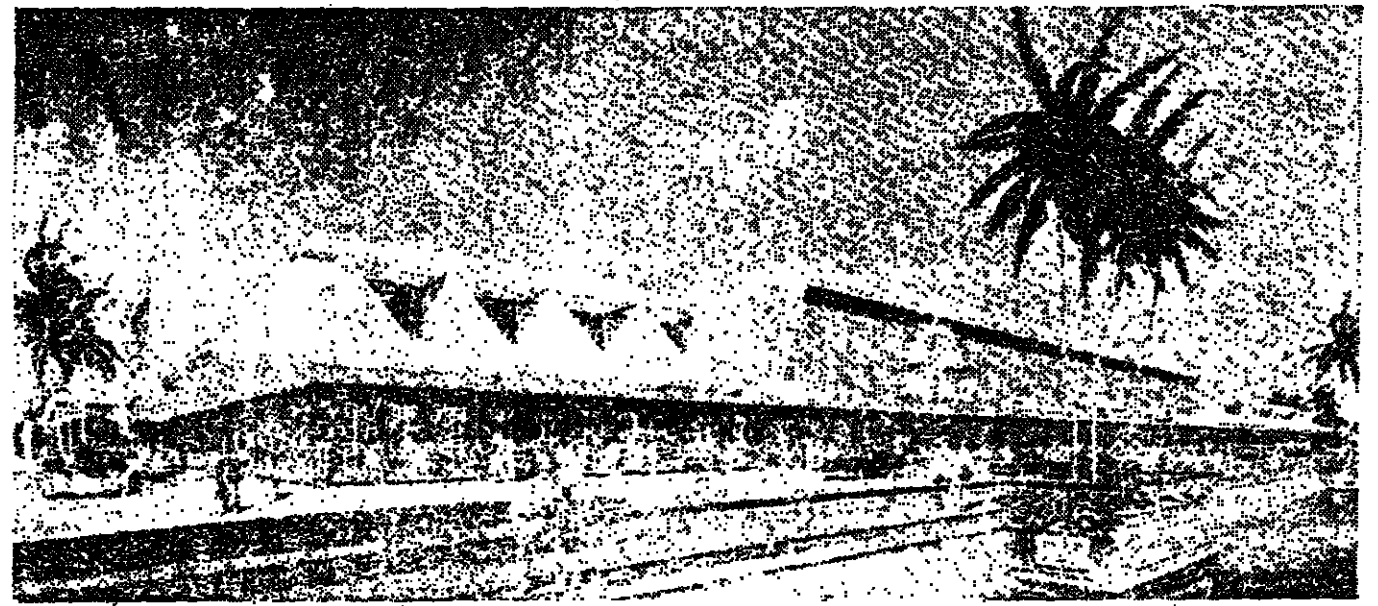
The rate of population growth at 2.2 per cent is another source of increasing pressure on a Government facing many problems.

This year is likely to test the viability of the expansion plans for the economy. Panama has a long way to go to reach maturity but its attempt to develop is aided by many favourable factors.



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Measures adopted to revive economy

by Sidney Wise

A double economic strategy is being employed by Panama to create a long period of high growth within a new pattern of development.

The immediate strategy is to pull the economy out of the recession which, in 1976, slowed expansion of the gross national product to almost zero.

The longer-range objective is to create new sources of economic growth which will fortify the internal economy while expanding and diversifying the concept of Panama as an important

world trade and banking centre.

For Panama, 1976 was the worst economic year since the 1930s. The g.n.p. which had been expanding at an annual average rate of about 8 per cent since 1960, the highest such growth in Latin America, diminished to a rate of increase of 0.5 per cent.

In view of Panama's 3.2 per cent annual population increase, that meant a per capita decline of 2.7 per cent. What made it more painful was that 1975 was little better, with a g.n.p. increase of only 1.5 per cent.

Compounding the situation is stubborn inflation, most of it imported from the industrial powers since

Panama buys 40 per cent of its consumer goods abroad. The rate of increase was an estimated 10 per cent last year, lower than the 15 per cent of 1974, but still high enough to aggravate the economic woes besetting the nation.

At the same time, mostly because of higher world oil prices, Panama's balance of trade deficit increased from \$100m in 1973 to \$260m in 1976 while new social legislation and a labour code making it prohibitive to dismiss workers caused a sharp drop in private investment.

"The economy might have weathered each factor separately," Dr. Nicolas Ardito Barletta, Minister of Planning, said. "But the

combination of all of them unfolding at the same time was too much."

However, if the plans of Dr. Ardito Barletta materialise, Panama may be on the way out of its present predicament and travelling along the road to long-term growth, although not the kind of dramatic expansion that took place in the 1960s and early 1970s.

To revive domestic economic growth, the Government has adopted a series of tax, legislative and spending measures aimed at stimulating private investment, creating more jobs and increasing exports.

The onerous aspects of the labour code have been removed. Accelerated depreciation is now allowed for investments in construction and equipment. A 90 per cent reduction of the dividend tax is granted when retained earnings are reinvested within a nine-month period.

The government development bank, Corporación Financiera Nacional, is promoting 28 joint ventures with the private sector, ranging from factories to hotels in which private banks will provide the operating capital.

Meanwhile, a series of projects being built aim at increasing economic growth. An international airport within a zone for light industry, commercial and air cargo facilities is expected to be finished within five months. The World Bank provided a loan of \$24m of the \$60m needed for construction.

A \$30m container port to handle cargoes of container ships too big to go through the canal will be built at Bahia Las Minas on the Atlantic side by a Canadian firm which will also provide the finance.

Another World Bank project now being built is a \$30m fishing port at Vacamonte, on the Pacific coast, where tuna will be processed and transhipped. The port is near rich tuna areas and can save the expense and time of fishing boats making round trips to and from their home ports.

Bigger role for free zone

Expansion of the free zone expected to bring a new source of income to tourism. A convention centre financed by a \$22m loan from the Inter-American Development Bank is being built. Tourism promotion is being carried out in areas like Porto Bello and the San Blas group of 135 islands, which have tropical beaches and succulent lobsters among their main attractions.

The expected completion within one year of the Pan American Highway by cutting through the Darien Gap will open a new source of economic wealth. The area has rich forest reserves of softwood ideal for pulp and paper. It is also rich in minerals and has attracted several Canadian paper companies.

Panama is combating higher oil prices through construction of a series of hydroelectric dams which will provide savings to Panama in fuel oil of up to \$40m.

Part of the strategy of Dr. Ardito Barletta is to foster multiple-function development. Most of the projects being carried out combine one or more of the aims to create more jobs, increase production so as to lower inflation, raise exports, accelerate import substitution, and build up per capita income. All this is within the larger context of transforming Panama into a bigger world banking and commerce service centre.

In a nation like Panama, about twice the size of Belgium, with a territory of 23,208 sq miles, a population of only 1,150,000 and a g.n.p. of only \$1,150m, import substitution has severe limitations.

With such a small domestic market, it is impractical to carry out import substitution to its most developed point of manufacturing cars. Panama aims at completing a preliminary phase of substituting imports through light manufacturing.

The main thrust of its expansion, however, remains using its strategic geographic location to establish a service centre for world trade and banking.

Dr. Ardito Barletta expects Panama's g.n.p. to grow 3 per cent this year, and to increase from 4 to 5 per cent in 1978. For the decade thereafter, he forecasts an average annual increase of 7 per cent with per capita annual income of \$2,000 by 1990.

Freedom proves lure to the big banks

Besides having a shipping canal, Panama has a money

stream of offshore funds from most of the world's biggest banks established in this rapidly growing international finance centre. Like the ships that pass through the canal, very few of which stop for unloading, most of the money that flows in and out of the foreign banks located in Panama is in transit.

Behind the attractions which continue to draw banks to open branches in Panama is the attitude of the Government, which provides unusual freedom of action.

There is no sign that this attitude will change. On the contrary, although regulations to prevent questionable banking practices have been tightened, the Government is convinced of the benefits which the offshore banking boom has brought to the country.

For the giant international banks are absent from Panama, and it also has a surprising number of imaginative medium-sized banks. Bank of America, with \$1,894m, was the biggest in assets at the end of 1975, followed by the First National Bank of Chicago with \$1,286m and Banco do Brasil with \$1,134m.

United States banks are the dominant force, with 13 of the 75 licensed foreign banks. A total of 24 countries are represented. Spain, Germany, Switzerland and Canada have four banks; France has three; and Britain two—Standard Chartered and the Bank of London.

don and South America, a subsidiary of Lloyds International. Panama's banking boom began shortly after July, 1970, when a new law was adopted to create a solid confidence-inspiring banking system while granting attractive incentives for financial operations.

One result of Decree Number 238, the title of the new banking law, was the cancellation of operating permits of 248 doubtful banks, many of which were non-operative. This reduced the number of banks to 21. At the same time, a banking commission was created to supervise a more tightly controlled system of financial operations.

Panama jealously guards the now internationally recognized image of banking safety which it has established since the law was adopted. Applications to open banks are carefully screened and it may be a year or more before permission is granted.

Only four permits were granted last year. This was a result not only of the strict requirements of the commission but also of the aftermath of the world recession, and because Panama may be reaching a temporary saturation point in attracting banks.

Tax incentives have been one of the most powerful stimulants of Panama banks, including even Government officials, are surprisingly prompt and punctual for a Latin American country. Domestic loans by all banks in Panama totalled only \$23m in 1976. By contrast, they increased sixfold

to exceed \$143m. Since neither Panama's economy nor credit capacity has grown at more than a small fraction of such a rate of increase, it seems clear that the banks have made a disproportionate allocation of local credit.

The presence of so many large foreign banks doing multi-million dollar operations usually has made it possible for Panama to receive credits to develop local industry, agriculture and the economy to an extent far beyond what it might be able to obtain otherwise.

There are three types of banking licences in Panama. A general licence permits banks to carry out both domestic and international operations. At the end of last June there were 47 such banks. An international licence limits banks to only foreign operations. There were 19 such financial institutions. A third category of licence permits only representative banking work. There were five such licences.

The fact that Panama has a bank secrecy law and permits numbered accounts has inspired a description of this tiny nation as "a Latin Switzerland", but it is clear that Panama grants incentives and privileges to banks operating in its country, rapid telephone and cable communications are available and Panamanian officials, are surprisingly prompt and punctual for a Latin American country.

Domestic loans by all banks in Panama totalled only \$23m in 1976. By contrast, they increased sixfold to exceed \$143m. Since neither Panama's economy nor credit capacity has grown at more than a small fraction of such a rate of increase, it seems clear that the banks have made a disproportionate allocation of local credit.

The very process of expanding Panama as an international banking centre helps to stimulate the economy and vice versa.

The banks in Panama can have almost unrestricted freedom to carry out authorized financing operations while paying taxes only on domestic profits. There are no exchange controls nor is there a central bank and freedom of capital transfer and investment is almost unhampered.

Another seemingly logical extension of the present concentration of so many important banks in Panama is a proposal to create Latin American multinational foreign trade bank. Exports of manufactured goods from Latin America are expected to reach \$17,000m by 1980.

The proposal is sponsored by Panama and was favourably received at a meeting last September of the Latin American Central Bank group.

Steps are being taken to increase further the volume and kind of services provided by Panama's financial centre. On Wednesday Panama held a first international bank convention which will be attended by representatives of the international financial community will meet for three days to discuss future possibilities of the country as a banking centre with special regard to loan syndication, money brokerage, foreign exchange, money management, bankers' acceptance and investment banking.

Ship losses show faults in registry system

by Peter Hill

The bizarre affair of the tanker Globik Venus earlier this year at Le Havre focused the attention of the world on the problems of the flag of convenience.

The Venus, owned by Mr Ravi Tikoo, the shipping millionaire, crewed by Filipinos and flying the Bahamian flag (later changed to the British flag) has now become a case study of the flag of convenience. The Transport Workers' Federation in its fight for better conditions for the seamen (yearly) have been under attack for many years and the loss of vessels and life has become a source of growing international concern. The list of nations offering convenience flags is lengthy and Panama is both one of the largest and carries a reputation for accidents which will be difficult to erase for many years. Steps are being taken, however, to tighten up inspection and surveys of vessels which fly the Panamanian flag.

Panama has the seventh largest merchant fleet in the world—at the end of last year it amounted to more than 15,000,000 tons and at the year end there were nearly two million tons more either under construction or not yet started for eventual registry in Panama. Just over one-third of the Panamanian fleet is accounted for by oil tanker tonnage and much of the fleet is old by shipping industry standards.

The flags have attracted scores of reputable owners from Europe, Scandinavia and Britain as the cost of flying their respective domestic flags has risen beyond an acceptable level. On a conservative estimate, it is reckoned that operation under a convenience flag compared with a domestic flag can produce savings of between 15 and 30 per cent.

Mr Juan Antonio Stagg, Panama's consul general in New York, said recently that in addition to benefiting the prosperity of the Panamanian merchant marine, it was hoped that the new legislation would have an influence on the international prestige of Panama and reaffirm the nation's position as one of the largest flag operators.

The Federation of American Controlled Shipping has supported the new measures although it has reservations on the effectiveness of the inspectorate in meeting its targets because of the wide spread of Panamanian-registered ships and the general age of the fleet.

It has also been argued that the very existence of flags of convenience has had a depressant effect on world freight rates in the shipping market and has caused traditional maritime countries to resort to subsidies, depreciation allowances and investment grants in an effort to counterbalance the tax-free operations of convenience owners.

But it is the safety aspects which have increasingly become the focus of attention within the shipping world. Attention which has been heightened by the spate of losses of tankers off the American coast in the past few years. It was a requirement for high loss levels.

Panama, too, has taken note of the rising concern and has recently introduced legislation which will provide it with a worldwide ship inspection programme. Under the new law, all vessels flying the Panamanian flag will be required to be the subject of a detailed inspection every year. It is designed to ensure compliance with both national and international regulations and owners who fail to comply will be liable to a fine of \$10,000 and in the event of recurrence their vessels will be removed from the Panamanian registry.

Ships of less than 5,000 tons will be liable to a charge of \$300 and for vessels of more than 5,000 tons the charge has been set at \$500. Proceeds from this tax will be channelled to a special inspection fund controlled by the General Director of Consular Affairs and Shipping.

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The author is Industrial Correspondent, The Times.

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Elegance in the Canal Zone and slums in Colón.



Poverty brought into open

Beyond Panama's strong external orientation over the Canal and its world banking centre lies an intensive domestic drive to create a more modern social-economic structure.

A visitor to Panama City may have the impression that he is in a city in Florida populated by a prosperous middle class society, bustling with late model American cars, condominiums, apartments and fashionable shops. The robust economic growth of the 1960s and early 1970s contributed to this appearance of a fairly comfortable standard of living. But the distribution of that growth was highly uneven. As a result, Panama today is a microcosm of many of the social and economic ills plaguing the rest of Latin America, although, on a comparative basis, the problems are far less serious than in most of the other American republics.

Despite his strong-man rule, it must be admitted that General Omar Torrijos has

done more to publicize these problems than preceding governments which glossed over or ignored them.

General Torrijos has made notable advances in improving several backward areas of society while in others deeply entrenched problems remain a frustrating challenge.

What gives Panama greater prospects of progress than other American republics, however, is its reduced population of 1,700,000—the smallest in Latin America. With a population of more than 110 million in Brazil, these problems seem immense but with less than two million in Panama solutions seem far less complicated.

Panama is proud of its income, a head which government spokesmen usually state as being \$1,000 annually. This tends to obscure the wide disparity between rich and poor which emerges from a recent official study disclosed that the top 30 per cent of income earners received 73 per cent

of national income while the bottom 30 per cent received barely 3.8 per cent.

The task of improving this situation falls to only 29 per cent of the population representing the active work force. Adding to this economic burden is the fact that 43 per cent of the population is under 15 years because of the population explosion of the past 20 years.

Poverty in Panama, as in most underdeveloped nations, is concentrated in the rural areas and in the *barrios* (slums) of the cities where peasants seeking work and glory arrive in daily increasing numbers.

To attack the rural problems at their source the Government has employed a series of devices, extending from the use of health committees through a form of farm "community medicine" to a type of capital fund investment for marginal farmers which offers prospects of a 70 per cent annual yield. Another state project is the starting of public ser-

vices by various hamlets nearby which cooperate in their construction.

The sparsely populated villages in the interior are an obstacle to development since in 1970 more than 60 per cent of the 9,313 hamlets had less than 50 inhabitants. A related problem is that half the national territory is uninhabited leaving the natural resources of that land unincorporated in the economy.

The Government has been increasing technical aid and farm credit to the rural areas. Loans increased from \$43m in 1970 to \$149m in 1975.

But despite concerted efforts to build up the agricultural sector a host of long-rooted problems has thwarted substantial progress. Lack of efficient use of fertilizer and insecticides, inadequate storage, unclear land tenure, an excessive number of small-farms producing only for self-consumption and inadequate transport and communication are

among the obstacles in the way of improvement.

The growth of the agricultural sector has shown a steady decline. During 1960 to 1965 the rate of growth was 7.2 per cent which declined to 4.3 per cent during the next five-year period and to 3.6 per cent during 1970 to 1975.

At the same time an opposite trend in food imports developed with an increase of more than 100 per cent from 1960 to 1975. The heaviest imports were wheat, meat and milk products. Bananas, sugar and shrimp are the export products of greatest volume.

Recent heavy investments in the sugar industry are expected to double sugar production and exceed \$100m of exports by 1980, according to the Government.

At the same time, increased production of pork, eggs, chicken and meat are expected to make Panama self-sufficient in these products by 1980.

S.W.

Confined free zone

The Colón free zone is a logical extension of Panama's unique location and the hub of international service built around it. More than 1,000 ships reach monthly through the Canal, banks handling (E.L.100m), most \$900m, a recently completed highway was a gateway to Latin

OECD countries, an efficient and secure early learnt in this zone opening a very rough, but a glaring experience in Panama not while. Colón free zone claims to be the second largest such trading zone in the world, surpassed in volume of goods handled only by Hong Kong.

For a significant trading centre, it occupies a tiny amount of land. Only about 100 acres make up the free zone where rows of warehouses, offices and light manufacturing plants are jammed into a compound behind a surrounding high wall and barbed wire.

The zone is located one mile from Cristóbal, a fully equipped port on the Atlantic. Colón is inside the Canal Zone under United

States jurisdiction. Cargo from the Pacific side can easily be unloaded at Balboa, some 30 miles away and transported by ferries. The Tocumen international airport outside Panama City connects to the free zone by a recently completed highway.

Although the original creation of the free zone, they failed to anticipate the rapid growth which took place after it was established in 1952. That growth has been so swift since then that today there is little room left for further expansion since the zone has almost run out of unoccupied space.

The free zone is in a gulch-like area surrounded by the Atlantic on one side and partially on the other side by the Canal Zone which separates it from the rest of Panama.

Plans to expand the free zone into the Old France airfield nearby containing 122 acres within the Canal Zone are nearing completion, according to the Panamanian Government. The airfield was

offered to Panama by the American Government several years ago.

If expansion into the Old France airfield is not possible, the free zone may have to accommodate the continuing growth by extending itself vertically through high-rise buildings.

Adding to the need to find increased sevenfold during that period from \$123m in 1960 to \$958m in 1975. At the same time, re-export volume alone rose from \$78m to \$543m.

Net exports increased to an average annual rate of 15.2 per cent during the period. During the first half of the 1970s the average annual rate of increase was 18.8 per cent.

The world recession, however, has slowed this growth but, slow this stagnation, dollar because of increased volume. Managed to increase slightly even as the tonnage of goods declined. Inside the free zone, more than 300 companies operate, representing products of at least an additional equal

number of companies not physically located there.

The main aim of the free zone is trade with Latin America for which the Panamanian isthmus has served as a conduit since the sixteenth century when the conquistadores shipped gold and silver from Peru to Spain.

...Caracas brought to the free zone they are processed, assembled, repacked, rebottled or merely stored and distributed. Operating costs are low although labour is more expensive than in many economically depressed regions of the Caribbean and Latin America. Warehouse, building and office space is normally rented.

The free zone has attracted hundreds of the large international companies making consumer products with world famous brand names. Japan is the leading nation in terms of volume of shipments to the free zone followed by the United States, Brazil, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Britain is conspicuous by

its absence. Of the trading powers of the world, Britain has the most meagre representation in the zone. Yet, paradoxically, the United Kingdom ranked second among the 65 nations whose ships passed through the Canal in 1976. A total of 1,285 British ships carrying 11,436,046 long tons of cargo stayed away from the free zone, more aggressive firms from other countries have not, as testified by the numerous Japanese and American companies importing and exporting from the free zone.

One of the main attractions which drew them to Panama is the low rate of taxation. Last year the Government modified the 90 per cent tax rebate on profits made from sales outside Panama. Foreign earnings for companies in the free zone are now taxed on a sliding scale ranging up to 8.5 per cent on income up to \$100,000. On profits above that level, there is a fixed 8.5 per cent profit tax.

S.W.

Change of heart in mines

John Parry

Despite the apparently close political and economic connections between Panama and the United States, the swift changes in mining and development in Latin America during the past 10 years have not passed unnoticed by the Panamanian Government. The sometimes intense struggle which South American countries had to make to recover a greater say in the development of their mines, particularly the big copper projects in Peru and Chile, was largely caused by offering too generous incentives in the first place.

By 1975 the lessons from Peru and Chile were clear; long-term control was best achieved by demanding terms for foreign participation which were firm enough to command political respect at home while at the same time not completely discouraging any outside interest at all.

On the morning of March 6, 1975, executives of three international mining companies were surprised to be told that the agreement to develop Panama's Cerro Colorado, the largest known copper deposit in the world, was off. True, the agreement with Canadian Javelin as the largest shareholder in a consortium with Noranda (also Canadian) and C. Inoh (Japan) was never finally signed, but the Panamanian Government's change of plan was about as new to the start deadline as it was pos-

sible to get without causing too much international friction.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, for a country so precariously balanced on the geographical fulcrum between North and South America, the change of heart was influenced by Venezuela and Peru. Venezuela was reported to be keen to use its surplus dollar revenue to finance new projects elsewhere in Latin America, while Peru was to contribute its mine development and operating knowledge. Panama, slightly unhappy about allowing North American interests to take control of Cerro, was glad to use the alternative offer as a bridgehead from which more attractive terms might be negotiated.

The possibility that ditching the Canadian Javelin-led consortium might discourage other potential partners was quickly overcome by prompt and generous agreement on compensation. A \$5m golden handshake was given to CJ in August, 1975, and a further \$18.6m in the form of an 8 per cent a year 20-year direct obligation interim bond with Panama is intended to cover Canadian Javelin's development costs.

With offers of finance from Venezuela in addition to new offers of United States finance the Panamanian Government mining agency began to sit back and enjoy life. Señor Juan Roqueberry, Cerro Colorado's project manager, confirmed that Texasgulf, Noranda,

Union Minière and Selection Trust had applied to develop the project and in July, 1975, agreement in principle was reached with Texasgulf.

It is a measure of Panama's estimation of the importance of Cerro Colorado that the final agreement with Texasgulf was signed in the presidential palace in February 1976. Under its terms Texasgulf is conducting a feasibility study (although a large part of this work had been completed by Canadian Javelin) on a fee-paying basis.

If approval is given Texasgulf will get only 20 per cent of the equity with the rest held by the Panama Government. Even Texasgulf's 20 per cent includes a buy-out option by the Government after 20 years.

In addition to its equity Texasgulf's main role will be its fixed-fee development and management work, which will run for 15 years after the mine has come on stream.

The reason for all this enthusiasm for the normally ultra-conservative international mining groups is that the mine is vast.

Before Texasgulf started its feasibility study proved ore reserves of 1,000 million tons grading 0.6 per cent Cu were being quoted. Texasgulf later confirmed large tonnages of 1 per cent copper in 1,000 million tons, in addition to molybdenum and gold values, and possible reserves of 3,500 million tons at 0.6 per cent Cu.

The two main problems about which some concern was being voiced can both be overcome without great difficulty. The deposit is about 200km south of Panama City. It is located in rugged and mountainous terrain, 40km north of the Pacific and accessible by a 35km dirt road linking up with the Pan-American highway. A substantial investment in making the mine accessible will need to be considered before the mine begins operations.

Once mining has started some fairly precise directions are going to be needed on what and where to dig. The primary ore body consists of chalcocite and pyrite veins of copper sulphide and related disseminations. Overlying the primary deposit is a crescent-shaped zone of secondary enrichment, which encouraged Canadian Javelin to consider an open-pit mine.

But the whole ore body is intruded by barren porphyry dykes and it now seems that mining will have to go underground. The first stage of development, which is unlikely to start much before 1979, will include the mine, concentrator, smelter and refinery in an integrated 150,000 tons per year (tpy) refined copper production, possibly by 1981.

A second phase development (in which Texasgulf will hold 49 per cent of the equity) has planned a phosphate fertilizer complex using the by-product sulphuric acid from copper refining. The cost of the first phase was estimated in 1976 at \$800m.

It is too early to make an accurate analysis of Cerro Colorado's contribution. At present prices and at full capacity 150,000 tpy means more than \$200m a year, while an eventual production target of 400,000 tpy

puts the unit among the 10 largest copper producers in the world.

It is also interesting to speculate on whether Panama will join CIPEC, the copper producers' association, which in 1975 attempted to force up low prices by restricting sales by 10 to 15 per cent.

The attempt failed, largely because CIPEC's share of world production was insufficient to outweigh excess supplies from other sources. This was recognized by CIPEC and steps were taken to attract new producers into the association. Again it is far too early to assume anything about CIPEC in 1981, but it will be surprising if it does not include Panama. As part of the agreement, Cobre Panama, is conducting a feasibility study on an open-pit mine to produce 30,000 tpy copper. The mine could start producing in 1980 with one of two options—either the concentrates will be refined at Cerro or they will be shipped to a Mitsubishi plant.

Countries like Panama must have foreign aid. Even the large copper-producing countries such as Chile and Zambia still need the operating skill of the mining multinationals. But Panama has seen the problems caused by being too generous with development incentives.

It has instead embarked on a policy which leaves the developers with clearly defined roles and minor control, providing for total control to pass back to the Government within a fixed period. In so doing, Panama, has established a model which might well serve as the pattern for many new projects to be developed in the Third World.

The author is editor, Metal Bulletin.

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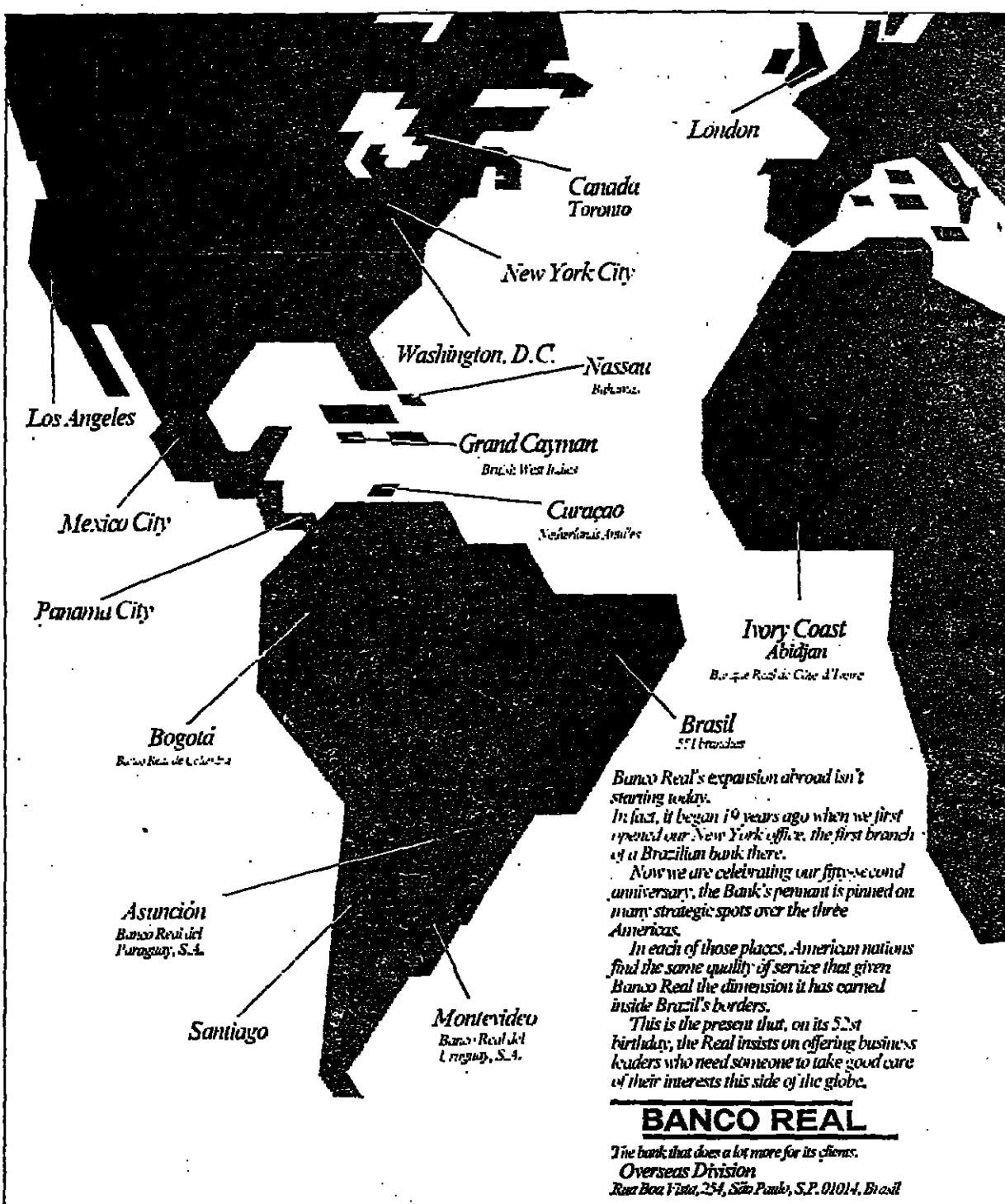


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Eric Moonman

Teaching government ministers how to do their jobs properly

The Prime Minister is supported by 107 ministers. The process of their recruitment from the back benches—as with previous administrations—is baffling to the world outside Westminster, to say nothing of the speculation and surprise of their own constituencies. In reality, the Prime Minister largely inherits his team from his predecessor, as Jim Callaghan did. Changes he can and will introduce, but these are invariably gradual and modest.

How good are ministerial decisions? How effectively do they relate promises to policies, plans and procedures to people? A few critical factors affect the answer to those questions: the competence and experience of the individual minister; the way a department has been run and how it expects to be run; Civil Service recruitment, policy; and the amount of time available to ministers for planning between crises.

To take the competence and experience of ministers first, very rarely does a ministerial appointment reflect any degree of specialist knowledge of a department's responsibilities. The likelihood is that, for example, someone who has spent all his life in agriculture may find himself looking after the Royal Navy, or the man who has no technological or managerial experience lands in the Department of Energy. And, if you look back over the past two decades, there have been many instances of a politician covering one depart-

ment's responsibilities for a long period from the Opposition Front Bench and then being given an entirely different responsibility when in government. Of course, if the minister is up to the job at all he will learn, and may learn quickly, but what happens while he is learning?

A minister can affect the mood of a department, but it requires considerable drive and determination. The late Tony Crosland really did shake up the Department of Education, making it task-orientated, while, prior to his tenure of office, they had muddled through, failing to respond to outside pressures and being proud of the fact. He was invariably in the Curzon Street offices very early each morning and was the last to leave each night. This dedication transformed the mood and aspirations of the staff far more effectively than any directive or memo.

The raising of the aspirational levels of staff is critical in any organization but it is made somewhat more difficult in government departments by a recruitment system which, years after the Fulton Committee recommendations, still fails to reflect the changes in the nature of our society, still aims to perpetuate class and still does not meet the challenge of government's many added responsibilities by developing new management procedures. It is not surprising then that many ministers, lacking detailed knowledge of their department's work and without

experience of how to make an organization work for them, have sought to find alternative ways of obtaining information and advice. And when the pressure is such that there is no time to think beyond the decision being demanded here and now then, as Mr. Crossman once told me when I chided him for misunderstanding new town policy when he was at the Housing Ministry: "Don't complain. My Cabinet colleagues take the best possible decisions the 24 hours allow."

The 1966-70 Labour Government tried to tackle the problem of ministerial inexperience by recruiting specialist political advisers, men and women who were given the status of temporary civil servants, jobs that carried no career security but were none the less handsomely paid. Harold Wilson defended the system in a discussion of techniques of government at the 1975 Commonwealth Conference, said that they acted as a sieve, examining papers put before their minister, drawing attention to conflicts with party policy or areas which might have electoral implications, and "the pair of hands, ears and eyes" who could keep the minister in touch with outside interest groups, undertake speech writing and research, and were also more politically committed and aware than Civil Service neutrals. Sir Harold exaggerated the importance of these political advisers, and so does Joe Haines, himself a political adviser, himself

it would seem from his revelations of his schizophrenic role at Number 10. (Nor have we heard the last of these pathetic ways of obtaining information. Yet the minister does need expert advice other than from civil servants. The Fulton Committee recommended that "a minister should be able to employ on a temporary basis such small numbers of experts as he personally considers he needs to help and advise him." Some of those listed as special advisers do indeed fall into that category, the Department of Health and Social Security having made good use of the services of such men as Professor Brian Abel-Smith.

In addition to the experts on poverty, transport, energy, or whatever, there is one additional adviser for whom ministers should find room—the specialist in long-term planning and technology assessment. The small office of executive who has already learnt how to harness this kind of expertise is President Jimmy Carter, who, as Governor of Georgia, was the first to set up a Planning and Budget office in his annual Budget review required each agency to present a plan, which was then evaluated and incorporated into policy planning which Carter himself directed. The President is now developing plans for the reorganization of the executive branch. He has said that he will press every government agency to make a long-term research and technology assessment to help them make wiser decisions, and will seek and require better means of involving the public in these activities.

Such forward-thinking and planning would help our ministers to get their work load and objectives in perspective. But the fundamental problem as to who serves in the ministerial team and how their performance is assessed remains. The group of Labour MPs is demanding that the Prime Minister should no longer make the choice himself, and that all appointments should be voted on by the Parliamentary Labour Party. This would be a bad practice: it would merely reflect the relative strength of the left and right wings, rather than a serious scrutiny of the men selected.

The answer lies in recognizing that a ministerial appointment requires the same preparation and training as an executive task in industry. Thus a management development scheme, with regular appraisals and training, has as much validity for potential ministers as it does for anyone else in the decision-making business. This could not produce expertise in any particular field but it should strengthen decision making and expose the failures.

The author is Labour MP for Bassetlaw.
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remind them of their political creed then there's a hell of a lot wrong with the ministers. Yet the minister does need expert advice other than from civil servants. The Fulton Committee recommended that "a minister should be able to employ on a temporary basis such small numbers of experts as he personally considers he needs to help and advise him." Some of those listed as special advisers do indeed fall into that category, the Department of Health and Social Security having made good use of the services of such men as Professor Brian Abel-Smith.

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The GLC

Owing to a fault of transmission in a sentence about the London boroughs, the words "excluding the three City of London, which are non-political" were included mistakenly in George Hutchinson's article on Saturday.

attached to the middle. It had not made him popular. The left and the right are now after his job, and in a national ballot the likelihood is that the voice of the right will be heard. Journalists Charter is expected to put up a candidate, and the margin by which he is defeated will be an interesting guide to the support in the rank and file for extremism.

No matter how tough or left wing the new executive tries to be in the next 12 months, the end of it has to live with 28,000 members who in the main are moderate. If they are pushed too far they will rebel or resign, and there are always rumours about the establishment of another journalists' union for those disenchanted with the political intensity that characterizes the NUJ leadership. Not many people have enjoyed the continuing cock-fight.

Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

The picket line outside the administration block at Dyce is not the normal, turbulent huddle but formed by well-spoken, articulate and cheerfully polite men more used to giving comments than making protest. Here we are, stuck in the rain, while the management has locked up the inventory and demanded back our cold weather jackets. The airport wants to tow away the caravan, we have been using for shelter, one man said. Not only the weather has lashed them. Recently the chairman himself directed some of his more apocalyptic thoughts at the picket line. The men flinched and picketed on. Industrial relations at Bristow, one observer noted, were about to burst into the nineteenth century.

Ronald Faux

made the journey in a wheelchair, pushed by two helpers, while the mayor and mayoress of Kensington and Chelsea had brought their black and white spaniel, who seemed to enjoy the outing more than anyone else. The chief steward, a former mayor of Harrogate, pointed out that six of the absentees were Labour (on the other hand three were Conservatives). Two Conservatives had turned out in full morning dress.

En route the marchers crossed the road to pay tribute to the Whittington stone, a memorial erected to the run-around Lord Mayor in 1820. There they were briefly accosted by a party of pensioners, concerned about Islington council's plans to move the stone, a listed historic monument, from its present site, possibly to make way for a dreared road widening. The Whittington stone, though restored and surrounded by a low wall, is largely indecipherable. Since 1964 it has been topped with a sculpted arch which has already lost the tips of both ears and carries a chip on its left shoulder.

Melvyn Westlake

While the small crowd enjoyed the sponsors' fare and tried to explain the difference between pétanque and boules to a few bemused newcomers, the teams were proving themselves hard to beat. They hoisted the southern sunbats, a fetching line in light blue trousers and red-colour pullovers, and their speciality seemed to be bombing their opponents' well-placed balls out of the way with deadly ferocity and accuracy.

A small contingent of pétanque enthusiasts play in Norfolk Square every Sunday afternoon, and one of the British champions is the French-born owner of a hotel overlooking the dusty rink. Not all British are newcomers to the game, though. One of the teams is the "Pétanque Club," which has been playing since 1920. The club's members, who claim to have learnt the game during the First World War.

If you want to know the time, you ask a policeman, but what if a policeman wants to know the time? A survey in *Sunday Times* shows that officers spent 21,000 on planning for the time last year. It is hoped that the new survey will reduce the time to 10,000.

Oddballs

The demands on civic dignitaries are such that in the afternoon the Lord and Lady Mayoress of Westminster, their deputies and the deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Kensington and Chelsea were all to be found in a queue for Paddington station, waiting for the final of London pétanque championships. The competition, sponsored by two French companies, on the day with drink and the other four involved 25 teams, but pétanque is a game of such skill that with careful predictability the reigning British champions were pitted against the reigning French champions, the *Équipe de France*.

The annual Whittington walk is organized by the London Mayor's Association, and old boys club for erstwhile first citizens, and most of the mayors were sponsored for their five mile effort in aid of their borough's silver jubilee appeals. All wore their chains of office, so that they jingled lightly as they passed, and they were led by a Scottish piper.

The lady mayor of Bexley

Crumbs for the Third World from the rich north's table?

The world's rich northern nations are desperately searching for a way of bringing to an end, with the minimum of acrimony and as constructive an appearance as possible, the so-called Paris dialogue in which they and their poor southern neighbours have been engaged for nearly 18 months.

It is not an easy task, but the decision has now been taken to wind up the so far fruitless exercise with a ministerial session on May 30 and June 1. If this final session is not to prove a sorry and unedifying affair, the rich group of countries know they will have to "put something out of the hat" which will make the long months of talking seem to have been to some purpose.

Precisely what action the northern industrial states can now take to achieve this end is proving a singular preoccupation for officials. In many respects, certainly, it will fall far short of what is necessary to help the non-oil exporting Third World countries deal with their yawning foreign trade deficits and their spiralling foreign debt. The needs of the developing countries at the Paris talks—formally known as the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (CIEC)—have been for a memorandum of all requirements of their debts, which are now estimated to have reached a staggering \$180,000m (excluding the debts of the oil producing states), having doubled in about four years.

The rich nations have resolutely refused to countenance this. They argue that it would not be in the interests of the developing countries themselves because it would undermine the creditworthiness of the international money markets, and, furthermore, it would be unfair to those poor countries that had been most prudent and eschewed indebtedness. The system of maintaining living standards.

This, however, is a disingenuous argument for it is frequently the inability to get into debt, rather than the unwillingness, which constrains many of the poorest nations. Ill-endowed with mineral resources or other natural advantages. From the point of view of the large western banks, as opposed to the international aid agencies, the creditworthiness of the rich world's very poorest nations is already zero.

Yet, conscious that the situation of many Third World countries is now very serious indeed, and that some gesture is necessary, the rich countries are anxious to try to come up with some agreed proposal to put before the final CIEC ministerial session, entailing direct transfer of money from rich to poor nations. The sum being considered at the moment is not large, perhaps \$1,000m.

One idea is that the money should be given in the form of a special replenishment of the International Development Association, which is an affiliate of the World Bank that lends to the very poorest nations for 50 years, interest-free. This agency is replenished with money by the rich nations every three years according to a well-established burden-sharing formula. It is thus a ready-made instrument that would minimize any bickering over the size of the rich countries' individual contributions.

Although no other major proposals are likely to be forthcoming during the Paris talks, the industrialized nations are very anxious that the CIEC should not be condemned as a failure. Western governments officials are keen that the conference should be viewed as part of a continuing process, and that it should not be judged by its own directors, but by its influence on events elsewhere. After all, they say, the northern states have already agreed to the fifth regular replenishment of the International Development Association, amounting to \$7,600m, and there is now a strong chance that a major increase in the capitalization of the World Bank might be agreed next year which will ensure a high level of lending by that agency well into the 1980s.

Moreover, most of the industrialized countries are now broadly prepared to accept the establishment of a common fund to regulate world commodity prices in spite of strong reservations harboured by some of them about the efficacy of such an institution.

The common fund is one of the four projects of the Third World commodity producers and at the very heart of their campaign for a new international economic order. Separate month-long negotiations in Geneva on the formation of a common fund ended inconclusively at the beginning of this month. They are expected to recommence in the autumn. Although the developing countries are unlikely to see their demand met for a powerful regulatory body, increasing their commodity markets and buttressing prices, there now seems a good chance that some more narrowly-conceived institution will eventually be set up. The same thing is also increasing interest in a Swedish-West German scheme for stabilizing Third World commodity earnings as opposed to prices.

These schemes and proposals add up, the rich countries say, to a formidable programme for helping the poor states overcome their economic problems. While, this year, recession is causing significant unemployment at home, can they be expected to do any more. The answer that they will receive in Paris is that the severity of the problem is far greater than that of the industrial block. Average unemployment of 5 per cent in the rich countries compares with 25 or 30 per cent in some poor states. The fault lies in the economic system of the north, which not only contributes to the poverty of the more southerly countries, but permits machinery to lie idle when Asia, Africa and Latin America desperately need the machines to be turning out.

This is the broad philosophical clash that is now being fought when the ministers of eight developed and 19 developing countries assemble in Paris. The 30 rich nations appear to be agreed on all sides, however, is the unsatisfactory forum that CIEC has presented for this kind of negotiation. The original initiative for the conference sprang from President Giscard d'Estaing. The French president wanted a limited conference concerned only with oil, but the oil exporting nations insisted that it be a record include raw material, 12-stage and development aid at Surinam. The conference, which was held in Paris, was a failure. The rich countries, which export oil, export other goods which would give the task a more realistic perspective. The joint venture, representing the interests of Venezuela and Mexico, MacEachern of Canada. But it was clear from an early stage that the difference between the groups was too wide to permit any agreed approach to the key issues.

The developing countries now believe it is a mistake to allow the discussion of topics to pass out of the control of the United Nations and its agencies, where they feel better able to control the industrial nations. They are unhappy to have entrapped themselves in a situation whereby so much hangs on the outcome of a single set of negotiations. Both sides are aware that the credibility of the United Nations can now offer enough to prevent the developing states from again embracing a more directly combative and disruptive approach in north-south relations.

Journalists play both ends against the middle

The National Union of Journalists stumbled through four days of confused cantankerous debate at its conference last week, but every trade union has its allures, and the outcome is anybody's guess. Among its printing union brothers in the newspaper industry, it is viewed almost paternally, based on its innate tendency to ride off in all directions at the same time.

The best people at present, however, are the positive approach in the absence of a decisive executive are the far left, who as in almost every union conference are disproportionately represented. They offered the initiative last week in a decision to commit something in excess of £10,000 a week in dispute pay to try to break down a determined management at East Midlands Allied Press. The non-militant delegates felt happy behind the move, although on cool reflection they might consider the danger of the union's £250,000

balance moves to and fro; this time it has shifted towards the left. In the next year it can safely be expected to appear more militant, but in the end the union will not be pushed too far. A revolt against an executive attempt to spread a BBC Radio Sheffield strike proved that, and the reputation of the executive's ability to spread the word to the members was wounded deeply.

Mr Denis MacShane, a BBC sub-editor who was prominent in trying to spread the strike, was offered as a scapegoat for the collective folly of the executive, and in a rank and file poll lost his place as one of the two broadcasting members. But he bounced back as vice-president in a ballot, and conference delegates, which went some way to restore the loss for the left.

The far left shot themselves in the NUJ through Journalists Charter, an organization that succinctly declares its policy as attempting to link militants

around a common aim, and that aim is "to mount an offensive against the employers on every front."

In a booklet advocating the closed shop it states: "Many union members would, given the opportunity, act militantly. At the moment they are isolated, demoralized or unaware of their collective strength." The group is better organized than anything else at the NUJ conference, and is comparatively a very slick outfit. That, despite its small membership, is its strength.

Mr Kenneth Morgan, who throughout his general secretaryship has been relentlessly attacked by the highly articulate left, as well as by a good proportion of everybody else, is leaving. Presumably he has had enough of doing an intensely difficult and thankless job.

His farewell shot to his last NUJ conference before moving to the Press Council was that he had done his best to keep both ends of the union

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around a common aim, and that aim is "to mount an offensive against the employers on every front."

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Why the Aberdeen pilots scrambled into the union

The extraordinary fact about the Bristow helicopter pilots strike, now entering its second week at Aberdeen Airport, is that in the briefest space it has turned some 60 well-paid and highly professional men into service officers hostile to union organization—into militants, prepared to stand in picket lines and boycott their company into submission.

If, as the men believe, the aim of the company was to subvert unionism, the pilots based at Aberdeen, it is ironic that the abrupt dismissal of Captain Peter Royston, a Balpa member, and the attitude of Mr Alan Bristow, company chairman, have driven pilots into the union more effectively than the most persuasive recruitment campaign.

Unless the two sides agree a solution soon, the strike could escalate in two significant

ways. It could exacerbate the whole delicate issue of union organization within the offshore oil industry and bring production from a number of platforms to a standstill at phenomenal cost to the country. Naturally, the oil companies and the Department of Energy are greatly concerned. Not least because they see in the pilots, 54 of whom have now been dismissed and must therefore force the issue through Balpa, and in Mr Bristow, the tough and uncompromising boss, an irresistible force about to meet an immovable object.

The National Joint Council of Civil Air Transport has asked Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, to intervene. Fuel supplies are thought to have run so low that Bristow pilots prepared to work will soon be unable to fly their

aircraft. The National Union of Seamen have refused to allow service ships to carry personnel or cargo to the rigs which would normally be flown, fuel tanker drivers have refused to supply the Bristow base and any attempt to bring in non-union tankers would be countered either by spreading the strike or blocking the vehicles involved.

Helicopters carry little more than 5 per cent of material to the offshore, but they do transport the crews and take equipment required in emergencies. Without the essential airlift it would not be long before safety codes on many platforms were being infringed.

British Airways helicopter pilots have already supported their Bristow colleagues with a 24-hour stoppage and the strike committee calculate that the company cannot much

longer service contracts in the North Sea. Pilots qualified to fly the powerful Sikorski helicopters offshore do not, as they say, grow on trees. They are in short supply and a pilot brought from another part of the company's operation merely creates difficulties with other contracts.

The company, however, claims that so far its pilots have been served and that the strike has not seriously affected them.

This is not a pay or conditions dispute, although these issues were taken up by the Bristow pilots with their merciful chairman last November through a pilots' group. The strike has been a matter of the dismissal of one man for refusing to take up an overseas appointment before his present contract expired. The strikers believe he was victimized.

"The pilots' group faded away and, frankly, we tended not to be interested in unions here," said one striker. "Many pilots, in fact, joined the company because it was non-union and they did not like what was happening elsewhere. They still admire the commercial skill of Alan Bristow and there is a great loyalty to the company, but frankly they are now joining the union from a sense of wanting protection. Balpa membership has shot up, and Bristow is the best recruiting sergeant the union could have."

Others were astonished by the sudden and unexpected change in their lives. "Two weeks ago, I was simply getting on with my job. Now I'm in a picket line, officially dismissed from the company, mortgage in abeyance and my wife and kids wondering what the hell's happened."



a battle of public and private admonitions from ministers over the weekend can have left the leaders of the trade union movement in no doubt as to the overwhelming importance the Government attaches to the achievement of a third phase of agreement on incomes policy. But it was left far less clear just what the Government's attitude to the issue is seeking. Mr Callaghan stressed that the bargain must contain considerable, but unspecified, elements of certainty and firmness. Mr Healey and Mr Ennals said a few words designed to make the conception of kitted bargaining seem less of a novelty (it seems that we have been engaged in it all the time without knowing). But in essence the theme of all the weekend public statements was that further restraint was imperative because the government could not and would not resort to monetary policy to protect workers from the consequences of excess. Beyond this, it was up to the trade union movement to discover what arrangement might be acceptable to its members. "We are not printing money now," affirmed Mr Healey menacingly.

At this stage of negotiations which promise to be long and painful this is probably as wise a position as any. Many trade unionists are still working through feelings of general resentment towards anything in the nature of imposed restraint, and until acceptance of the need for restraint of some kind gains strength within the movement, there is little point discussing mechanisms. To the extent that Mr Healey's approach evokes a spirit of caution that will exist whether or not a formal treaty with the TUC can be established:

The third anniversary of the Portuguese Revolution, which falls today, has provoked attempts in the Portuguese press to draw up a balance-sheet of the Revolution's consequences. Financially there can be no question that the balance is heavily negative. The substantial gold reserves left by the Salazar-Caetano regime have all been spent. The trade deficit last year reached an all-time high of 73 thousand million escudos (£1,100m), while the inflation rate was the highest of any OECD country: 26.8 per cent. And the price indices for March 1976 in this country are only a very rough guide to the actual experience of individuals. And while inflation has undoubtedly become a source of acute concern to the individual Portuguese family, there can still be little doubt that that family is, on average, enjoying a higher standard of living than three years ago. Portugal has joined the consumer societies. The trouble is that—like ourselves, though at a much lower level—the Portuguese have not yet found a way to produce and market anything like as much as they consume. In terms of gnp per capita Portugal remains easily the poorest country in Western

Moving to a common view on pay policy

Only a few months ago I heard an influential Conservative voice, in the secretary of the Carlton Club, shockingly ask what would happen if an advance in the price of petrol was refused, or was accompanied by rioting in the streets. It is also only a few weeks ago that Mrs Thatcher and the Shadow Cabinet surprisingly discovered that nearly all Fleet Street's policy-makers, as well as the City's big industry, had already transferred a Lab-Lib alliance to an early general election and that the Conservatives would almost certainly win. Working class voters flock away from Labour at one year's election after another, breaking voting habits of 20 or 30 years. It is not said or implied that only the Labour Government can carry the support of the TUC in a third year of pay restraint.

The message to Conservatives coming like alarm bells: the miners' destruction of Mr Heath's ministry in early 1974, the most potent reminder, will be one of the most potent reminders in the top echelon of our politics. Trade union leaders, it seemed to be widely felt, will take the necessary sumptuary punishment from Mr Thatcher. Therefore it is safe to say the watchword for Labour finish the job it began. Change to Conservative economic and industrial policies is sensed to be a nationally unacceptable risk. The present is the present. The new question is whether the past tense will soon be more appropriate. Certainly Mrs Thatcher and some of her senior henchmen note the signs that Labour's concord with the TUC begins to lose credibility. First, two years of pay restraint have created serious difficulties for labour that oblige a return to collective bargaining, then at least to flexible wage settlements at national or even local level. Second, a weak Labour

It is a policy for success or failure. To judge from what Sir Geoffrey Howe says in his open letter, stripped of its supporting hostilities, it has the additional advantage of bipartisan support in the House of Commons.

The great danger in the present negotiations is that the Government's desire for an agreement will lead it to give away too much. Failure would be damaging in itself, quite apart from the possible consequences of a wage explosion or a run on the pound in anticipation of one. Once the foreign exchange market has got the idea that the pound depends on an accommodation with the unions, failure would be seen as a far greater disaster than it need be.

Discounting the unrealistic garland of requests made by Mr. Jack Jones last week, there are two crucial ways in which the Government might buy an agreement to defeat it. It could abandon its commitment to monetary restraint to mollify the aggrieved public service unions, or it could set still closer controls on prices.

A policy weak on incomes and strong on prices would give the worst of both worlds. It would lead to greater unemployment, more surely than anything else, compelling employers starved of profits to restrict activity and forego investment.

In the light of what Mr. Callaghan and Mr. Healey have said about monetary policy, and of what Mr. Hattersley said about prices earlier this month, the Government seems determined to hold firm on both points at this stage. There must, inevitably, remain some doubt about how long an administration could stand out if extravagant settlements did begin to create unemployment, especially if there was an elec-

Europe. The Portuguese Government, like our own, is struggling simultaneously to stimulate production and to restrict consumption. So far it has succeeded only in aggravating political and social tensions.

Clearly unless this fundamental economic problem is solved the economic gains which the Revolution brought to ordinary people (mainly in the form of wage rises) will prove short-lived and illusory. That in turn would jeopardise the essential political gains—freedom of expression and a democratic political system—won was, or balance, worthwhile.

Even under the present régime of President Eanes and Prime Minister Soares—both men whose democratic convictions are beyond reasonable doubt—acts of disquieting illiberalism do occur. But there are plenty of officers and ex-officers in Portugal who were they to seize power, would make such minor infringements of the rule of law seem nugatory indeed. As in France at the end of the Algerian war, the extreme right in present-day Portugal draws its strength from an alliance between army officers and ex-fighters in Africa—repat-riated citizens from the former African colonies. Decolonization remains the most controversial of

Government, life in the Commons, and the longer trade socialist legislation and open handed spending on the social wage in return for the social wage pay for the work that can be sensibly committed to such trade union policies as protectionism, import controls, and arbitrary price regulations.

Third, the Labour Government itself has moved far towards the market economy and away from the welfare nation. It refuses to print money to make work for the unemployed; it imposes cash limits; it cuts government spending programmes; it lets prices rise; it openly tries to reach workers that their standard of living is falling behind that of the rest of the Kingdom brings inflation under control and earns its living in the world. It now puts industrial investment before social investment. It is not only enters into a neo-socialist pact with the orders in the Commons, it also takes broad strategic economic orders from the IMF because it has no other choice.

Consequently, nobody need be surprised to observe leading Conservatives taking new heart and following the new direction. Sir Geoffrey, the new shadow Chancellor, is one example, although we should not forget the latest axis of advance followed by Lord Thorneycroft, the party chairman, who presides over tactical discussions at Central Office. They are all following the new direction, economic fundamentals in a context that Mr Callaghan and the Chancellor of the Exchequer may no longer dismiss as unthinkable, if only because they are thinking and practising them.

In an open context, the chairman of the trade union advisory committee in his constituency of East Surrey, Sir Geoffrey yesterday effectively joined the intensifying campaign by the Prime Minister and his senior colleagues to force the summer to support a further year of pay restraint. He said, as Mr Callaghan says, that "the long slog to beat inflation" would not be achieved by a coup d'état, and is firmly not by an irresistible free-for-all. Nor would the problem away on a change of government.

There were, he said, imperatives from which no government could escape, and a government of either variety is entitled to look within the House of Commons for wide support for policies that are well designed to grapple with this fearful prob-

tion in the offing. But the Government's recent monetary record entitles it to some credit for restraint. If Mr Healey means what he says, a failure to arrive at Phase Three bargain need be no overwhelming catastrophe; if it does not, any bargain will in practice only set the ground rules for a wage explosion.

Until now governmental reserve about the pattern that ministers want to see has extended to the rate of increase in incomes that they would regard as tolerable next year. Now the Treasury's views, followed by Mr Healey, has indicated the range of their hopes: less than ten per cent over the next twelve months. Allowing for the tendency of earnings to slide upwards faster than wages, this would mean a wage of not much less than 1975. If that is to leave any scope at all for the adjustment of differentials and anomalies, it will mean far smaller increases for most workers.

It is broadly written between the lines of Mr Healey's speech that he would like the trade unions themselves to take a hand in the ungrateful task of choosing who should have more and who less. But even if the TUC cannot accept the odium that this would involve, it is not necessary to see a free-for-all as the only alternative to a third phase. In the private sector, a few groups would be in a position to make more offensively large gains than a policy of restraint would allow, but the market would inhibit most workers from seeking to imitate them. As for the public sector, there appears to be no dependence in the last resort on the determination of the Government

all the Revolution's achievements. Most Portuguese would now agree that it was necessary, but many would not agree with Captain Armando Marques Gama, who has accused his former comrades of betraying the Revolution by the "hasty and degrading" way that they carried out decolonisation, which he says has caused worse suffering and bloodshed than the thirteen years of colonial warfare that preceded it.

Few now believe that the mistakes of decolonization can be undone—although one right-wing pundit ~~argues from his seat~~ argues from his seat that the rulers. But the bitterness of the refugees towards a Portuguese regime towards which they consider have betrayed their homeland, and which now is unable to offer them work, remains an important factor of political instability at home. De Gaulle's France weathered such a problem, but in a much more favourable international and domestic environment—and even then de Gaulle was lucky to survive a series of assassination attempts. Portugal has a much weaker economy, and perhaps an even more bitterly divided society. The democratic rulers will need luck and skill as well as help from their friends.

ten." He implicitly noted how Mr. Healey had come full circle since March 1974 when he became Chancellor: it was now widely agreed that monetary policy lay at the heart of the matter and that the essential "to maintain full firm control of the rate of growth of the money supply," and the argument for long term regulation of relative incomes "now has few supporters".

Moreover, a large majority of the public, for any future House of Commons would wish to see the United Kingdom "return as soon as possible to pay increases that are free from direct intervention".

That meant discipline. Sir Geoffrey's prescription for discipline did not essentially differ from that of his predecessor, but he was more insistent that the money supply of money is properly controlled, then pay can rise above the economically justifiable level only at the cost of higher unemployment. It must be clearly understood that the basis of his pay policy was directly linked to the financial viability of each employing unit."

Almost quoting Sir Keith Joseph, as well as the Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey added that responsible pay restraint was an inescapable condition of any recovery, immediately it would be no less difficult to return to a system free from direct intervention than to establish a permanent incomes policy.

In essence, we seem now to have the makings of a new political debate on pay policy, with the members of the Government and Opposition occupy much common ground, and where both main parties have a mutual interest in educating workers to moderate pay claims. But the Government's demands must fall, and inflation and unemployment will run unacceptably high.

There remains the bogey of the public sector. Mrs Thatcher argues, as a Minister, that it is not the business of government to intervene between private sector employers and their workers in pay deals. If pay concessions are too tight, then jobs will be lost. Who are the victims? But the public sector is not the bogey it was brought down? Sir Geoffrey Howe insists that the government must set cash limits in areas where it is the employer, and that is theoretically the Labour Government's approach. Brave words! There lies the unparalleled weakness of both Government and Opposition when the task comes, as it always does.

From Mr Peter Roast, MP for Derbyshire South East (Conservative)

Sir, the real significance of President Carter's energy programme remains to be seen. But it is clear that the belated realization that the energy gap is only inevitable if politicians are allowed to meddle with the economic laws which supply energy is already having its downward impact on oil and gas prices. America has deluded herself that finite resources are infinite.

We too have to learn the painful lesson that a product is worth and therefore should be priced at, what the consumer is prepared to pay for it. Opec has tried to teach us, but oil states still try to conceal the reality from the nation.

There will only be an energy shortage if we continue to distort the market by artificial subsidies.

For instance, the British Gas monopoly is still marketing low-cost gas from the southern North Sea, and is not subjected to the same regime of North Sea oil, the cost of which is reduced by short-term bargains. But, as gas becomes scarcer and more expensive to develop the consumer will feel cheated, as is the consumer who feels tempted to install electric power, which was heavily subsidized.

Artificial pricing discourages investment in less wasteful energy use. Better industrial processes, more efficient power plants, less waste combustion, the development of combined heat and power, district heating, and even thermal insulation are deprived of the economic stimulus. Nor does it pay to make costly research and development in efficient internal combustion engines and alternative renewable energy sources such as wind, wave, tidal and solar.

Perhaps the American initiative may spur us out of the complacent assumption that a "Save it" persuasion campaign and the North Sea will see us through. Only an imaginative programme of positive incentives to invest in conservation and the development of new resources, based on realistic energy pricing, will do that.

Yours faithfully,
PETER ROST,
Joint Secretary,
Conservative Energy Committee,
House of Commons,

From Mr W. R. Hayward
Sir, For the past four thousand million years radiation from the sun has poured down upon this planet;

Football hooligans

From Mr Paul Fox

Sir, How I wish I could share Mr Goodbar's confident belief that the seating of football hooligans would result in the virtual disappearance and control of football violence, but it is a matter of conjecture as to whether or not the order to extend to the stadium a senseless and senseless enter the heads of their owners and so alleviate the current mindless violence which now appears to be a regular feature of Saturday afternoon sport.

As it will be true to say that "it is much more difficult to take part in a riot if you are sitting down than if you are standing up" but a regular attendance at football matches would convince Mr Goodbar of two things. First, that when all these "fans" were to use the seats provided for any length of time, which is not at all certain, the prevailing atmosphere of the game, the "Saturday afternoon event" and the crowd would frequently raise them to their feet.

Sir, My attention has just been drawn to a letter in recent columns (April) from Sir Keith Joseph quoting me from the Zeit of July 5, 1963 (sic) as saying: "I am not particular about freedom". Having myself somewhat more glibly said "I am not too keen on freedom" of my own compositions of nine years back, much less those of other people, but, of course, I never said any such thing. I value liberty and, as a liberal, I am not too keen on the edict, often used to use it for other than tedious defence of privilege and cliché. And I note, as he certainly should have noted, that the translation into English of the German, then translated back into English and, in any case, had a suspiciously eccentric sound.

Keith has also used this, as other occasions, to grieve lest my recent programmes on the BBC have

Devolution

From Dr G. Woodcock

Sir, May I add a comment relating to the recent discussion of devolution in your columns initiated (this time) by Lord Crowthor-Hunt (April 12) and joined by Nevil Martin-Jones (April 15) and the Editor (April 16) ?

I was surprised (yet again) at the suggestion made by Lord Crowthor-Hunt and supported by Mr Nevil Johnson that in the matter of devolution, "we have so much to learn from the American West Country Government" which implies that no other political system with which we are familiar constitutes an equally instructive model not to say a more appropriate one for Britain.

I detected this outside of mind in the Report of the Royal Commission on the Constitution. I asked myself then as I do now why to the appointed and self appointed experts in the matter of devolution and its variants ignore the experience of a country which, like West Germany, is comparable to Britain in area and population; is part of western Europe; and is (still) committed to western European forms of democratic institutions and behaviour ?

The country is Italy, a country now frequently (and rightly) the subject of reports and editorial comment in your newspaper. In my

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Sir, May I add a comment relating to the recent discussion of devolution in your columns initiated (this time) by Lord Crowther-Hunt (April 12) and joined by Nevil Johnson in a letter to the Editor

(April 187)

I was surprised (yet again) at the misrepresentation made by Lord Crowder-Johnson and supported by Mr Neill Johnson that in the matter of devolution, "we have so much to learn from the experience of West Germany" which implies that no other country has a valid model. This is a very familiar constituent an equally instructive model not to say a more appropriate one for Britain.

I detected this attitude of mind in the *Report of the Royal Commission on the Constitution*. I was asked myself then as I do now why to the appointed and self appointed experts in the matter of devolution and its variants ignore the experience of a country which, like West Germany, has a small population, a small area and population; is part of western Europe; and is (still) committed to western European forms of democratic institutions and behaviour?

The country is Italy, a country now frequently (and rightly) the subject of reports and editorial comment in your newspaper. In my

For a somewhat shorter period (since the water vapour condensed to form the seas), the sun and the moon have produced tidal movements of the earth's surface.

Flora developed: trees grew, died and eventually produced the fossil deposits of coal and oil. Millions of years later we dig expensive holes in the ground or bore expensive holes in the sea bed so that we may extract these products of the sun's radiation, distribute them to the cities and burn them in a variety of ways so that we may keep ourselves warm.

One product of the burning is distributed through an even more complex grid system so that the wheels of industry may turn. And all the time the sun still beats down, the wind rises and falls and the wind blows.

Quite recently we were told that the coal and oil deposits are not inexhaustible, that economies must be effected but that we must build more power stations so that the resources may be used more efficiently.

Why the money spent on research for further deposits, for the building of new power stations, the dangerous development of nuclear energy and indeed on the publicity necessary to effect the economies called for (a negative idea if ever there was I) would be better utilised in harnessing the sun, the wind, the waves and the tides, and will produce a free source of energy for as long as man is able to exist on this planet.

century, our descendants will surely look with amazement at the primitive methods we use so that our civilisation may exist, when natural energy is available in unlimited quantities.

Yours faithfully,

W. R. HAYWARD.

Coal reserves
From Mr C. E. Illiffe
Sir, I have in the past attempted to draw attention to the possible uncertainty attaching to public statements on this country's coal reserves. I am again prompted to write to you by the letter from Sir Derek Ezra which appeared in your issue for April 13. He refers, as he did in your issue of May 25, 1976, to "estimated technically recoverable coal" amounting to 45 billion tons.

On the other hand, in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, London, A 276, pages 439-

boogian element would have no compunction in remaining on their feet in order to begin or join in any disorder or violence.

There is indeed considerably less violence at football matches abroad further the basic differences in the attitude of young people attending matches abroad, where there is no such a great respect for the game and those involved, as opposed to this country where misguided "cult violence" is so often the order of the day. It is this fundamental dichotomy of attitude which investigation and research if we are to seek a permanent solution to the problem. Fines, cancellation of matches, jail sentences etc, may alleviate the problem, they will not solve it.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL BOW,
Bishop Otter College of Education,
College Lane,
Chichester,
West Sussex.
April 22.

should have been instant steps to neutralize their impact. I am greatly delighted by his concern, although I'm not sure that all Englishmen will feel equally flattered. I also note that his remedy didn't work. The situation has just turned up when my friend Milton Friedman, following the receipt of his Nobel Prize, was dominating the airwaves. Could it be, as so often if so innocently in these cases, that Sir Keith's deeper concern derives not from a desire to be "in" by public praise but the fact that so few are persuaded by him? I must tell Sir Keith in the gentlest possible way that I would never dream of asking

for time to rebut his views, even though one encounters them both frequently and at length.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KENNETH GALBRAITH,
Harvard University,
Cambridge,
Massachusetts,
U.S.A.

view the system of regional devolution now functioning in Italy constitutes a model which we in this country should at once take into account in our discussions of devolution; indeed, I would go further: the Italian form of regional devolution, resting as it does upon the fundamental and linked principles of a strong national Parliament and the unitary form of state appears both in theory and in practice a model of devolution more appropriate to the British situation and needs than the West German model of federalism/quasifederalism.

I cannot believe that the Italian experience of regional devolution is unknown to our indigenous experts; but the fact that, to my knowledge, Italy's experience is never mentioned in their public discussions of the question of devolution in England is due to their repeated references to West German experience (excluding a single reference to Italy made by Mr J. Macintosh, MP, in a short article published some time ago in this newspaper), and to the fact that Italy's pertinent experience of a neighbouring country continues to be ignored?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE WOODCOCK,
Faculty of Social Sciences,
Eliot College,
The University,
Canterbury, Kent.

From Mr K. J. Barton
Sir, I refer to the article in *The Times* of April 20 about the breeding of deer.
The breeding of indigenous creatures for food supplies, a long neglected subject, is now of increasing interest in all countries of the world; the development of trout farming and now possibly of deer farming are two steps in the right direction.

It might be pertinent at this point to remind experimenters that there is no reason why a small volume from an animal once indigenous that might well be applied to such experiments through the re-introduction of the European Bison (*Bison Bonanus*). This animal, which was introduced to Woburn, Whipsnade and Marwell Park, for example, shows that it thrives well in this climate and under British conditions; it will survive as well as any before man wiped it out.

In America it has been shown that it is also possible to produce satisfactory hybrids of the bison family and domestic cattle; I refer to the work of Buffalo Jones who produced the capture at the end of the nineteenth century and described this in his book "Forty years of Adventure", London, 1899. There have been recent developments in America to produce the useful hybrids. The capture is possible to graze these animals on marginal lands and in scrub country and produce by them considerably more volume of meat than is produced by domesticated animals which are not used.

The bison will stand considerable variations in temperature and climate and will adapt itself to living on both high, dry ground and low, wet ground. Recent experiments in the forests of the Bialstra in Northern Poland have brought fresh blood to this country; we should take advantage of this new input for the production of meat as well as for providing pleasure for zoological gardens. Yours faithfully,

KENNETH BARTON, Director,
Hampshire County Museum Service,
Chilcomb House,
Chilcomb Lane,
Bar End,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

Sir, It is good to learn from Donald Massie (April 20) that the Highlands and Islands Development Board now recognize that red deer in the West

Highlands are far better converters of rough grazing into protein than sheep and also have a sporting attraction for foreigners, for which sheep are not noted; and I must point out that the rut which is provoked by the stage roaring does not take place in July and August as he supposes, but starts in late June.

Fashions of course change, and in 1865 Muhl had less than 10 per cent of the deer now called red deer. He has a letter of that date from my great grandfather to his brother warning him there was one local poacher, a dangerous man, who was actually believed to eat deer flesh (my father), a terrible crime indeed. He intended to deer farm, but giving apart from the urgent necessity of an annual cull for population control, is that it is much more labour intensive in season than sheep; but there is need for more thought as to how one can combine stalking and intensive deer farming. I think even now it is not easy for a stalker to penetrate a screen of maybe 50 sharp-eyed hinds to get a guest within shot of his beast.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID JAMES,
Director of the Castle, Isle of Mull.

From Lord Kilbracken
Sir, In the House of Lords on July 19, 1973, Lord Hailsham, who was then Lord Chancellor, stated that any person who used torture for the purpose of interrogation "would be liable to criminal prosecution" which "can be brought under the law of Northern Ireland . . . by any individual . . . who is living there and will take out a summons".

It would therefore appear to be

unnecessary for the Irish Government to seek an order from the European Court of Human Rights that the British Government should take an action that can already be taken by any Northern Ireland resident.

Yours, &c.

JOHN KILBRACKEN
House of Lords.

From Dr. T. C. Carter
 35 Mrs. J. M. Palmer (April 7) is
 right. Feeding the old fashioned
 hen which was a remarkably
 efficient converter of animal feed
 into human food. But she should
 add even more the modern hen,
 which is more efficient and
 modern egg producers and distribu-
 tors, most of whom try hard to
 ensure that eggs are of good quality
 when they reach the housewife.
 25 years ago when my mother
 was a housewife, she would use
 every egg in a cup, for fear of
 spoiling the mixture by adding an
 egg that was rotten. Rotting was
 only a consequence of shell
 bacteria which allowed spoilage
 organisms to get in. My wife has not
 been sold a rotten egg since 1954.
 Yours faithfully,
 T. C. CARTER,
 Poultry Research Council's
 Poultry Research Centre,
 West Meads Road,
 Edinburgh.

From Mr D. Livermore
Sir, Would the poultry experts now
investigate the reduction in thick-
ness of Easter Eggs?
Yours sincerely,
D. LIVERMORE,
10 Burke Avenue,
Moseley,
Birmingham.



The Prince of Wales, speaking on BBC Radio 4 last night, appealed for support for a trust to be set up to mark the Queen's silver

engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr. J. B. York-Long, of Gloucestershire, and Charlotte, only daughter of Mr. J. H. F. Luttrell, of Hinton Charterhouse, Bath, and of Mrs P. M. Coleman, Tarrant Keyneston, Blandford.

The Prince of Wales will open an exhibition of British paintings in London on May 9. More than 100 works representing three centuries will be on show under the title "British paintings from the reign of James I to George IV".

There is a certain parallelism with developments within the Roman Catholic Church after the impact of the Second Vatican Council, where there has been a marked shift away from the Tridentine ideas of more or less isolated seminaries to the training of an exclusive élite. The emphasis today is on education that is much more in touch both with what is happening in the outside world and with the life

[illegible]

Parliamentary Diary

House of Commons

Tuesday, April 15: Statement on the Water Rates (Agriculture). Mr. Read first time. Debate on the statement. Mr. Read to move. A Government debate on the subject.

posed region around which the various regional institutes will be shaped, it includes not just the versatile and theoretical work of the Protestant churches but also the Russian Church and Roman Catholics. No doubt the impetus towards a more ecumenical form of theological education will be greatest in those areas such as the north-west, as to weaken the whole if they do not each have a number of centres to attract and transform distinctive attitudes and approaches.

Would the evangelical tradition, for example, be as strong and as vigorous as it has just shown itself to be at Nottingham without the support provided by the evangelical theologians

Under Anatoly Kozlov, the world champion, the Soviet Union has dominated the eight-day Olympic Games in the light of this form, won all five of his medals including one against Lajos Portisch, the Hungarian grandmaster, who one of four players in the world to challenge for the world title.

Hungary came second after an easy 21-22 victory over Czechoslovakia.

By Marcel Berlins

The annual - St George's Day celebration commemorating Shakespeare's birth is being held at the same time as the anniversary of the death of Dr Kwame Nkrumah.

After his retirement, he took predeceased him in 1974, survived by two sons.

REAR-ADMIRAL A. D. NICHOLL

Gen Sir Ian Jacob writes: "I received your complimentary notice of Rear-Admiral D. Nicholl naturally concentrated on his distinguished career and was very glad to read that you would like to send him a copy of the book."

Respondent for the Express was the BBC. I knew our time together was short but I had a wit and a wide knowledge of political and military

£10,000 winner. The weekly £50,000 Premium Bonds Bond prize, announced on Wednesday, was won by number W 932249. The winner lives in

[illegible]

Britons fare badly in EEC bridge

Runaway chess victory

The game between Karpov and Kasparov was rated by some experts as the most interesting of the tournament. For the first five moves of the game, Karpov's carefully played d4-d5 and c4-c5 strikes were met by Kasparov's equally careful e7-e6 and f7-f6.

FINAL ROUND RESULTS: Social Action beat Humbercup by 60-40; Young Men's beat Humbercup 78-59; Humbercup beat St. Mary's 60-40; St. Mary's beat Holy Trinity 60-40.

FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Soviet Union 41, 2. Hungary 31, 3. Yugoslavia 29, 4. Canada 20, 5. Bulgaria and West Germany 15 each, 7. Czechoslovakia 14.

Dy Robert Nowell

The publication of the Guildford report this month marked another stage in the slow but

residential colleges provided 1,369 places for 1,357 ordinands. Today 14 colleges have more than 900 places for 672 ordinands

and experience of ordinary Christians.

Of course, the Roman Catholic development reflected factors that did not apply in the Church

culture, where the theological college

More controversy is likely to be the

the oldest surviving manuscript of Queen's College, Birmingham, is dated from 1828, and the highest-achieving Theological College in 1839.

But over the past twelve years or so the marked decline in numbers coming forward for ordination has entailed a severe reduction in the number of theologians in the world.

Under the Roman Catholic Church under the impact of the Second Vatican Council, where there has been a move away from the Tridentine ideas of more or less isolated seminaries for the training of an exclusive cast. The emphasis today is on an education that is much more in touch both with what is happening in the outside world

in each region around which the proposed regional institutes will take shape, it includes not just universities and theological colleges but also Protestant colleges and Roman Catholic seminaries. No doubt the impetus towards a more ecumenical form of theological education will be greatest in those areas such as the north-west,

as to weaken the ties that do not, each have centres to pursue different and approaches.

Would the ex- tion, for example, and as vigorous shown itself to ham without the aid, by the eva-

Parliamentary Diary

House of Commons

Tuesday, April 19: Statement on the Budget by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Budget was read for the first time. Debate on the motion for the adjournment of the House. A four-hour debate about

Soviet Union's

Moscow, April 24.—The Soviet Union yesterday won the European team chess championship for the sixth time in succession, after a 2-2 victory over Bulgaria. The English team came last.

has dominated the eight-nation
tinals. Karpov, at the peak of his
form, won all five of his games,
including one against Lajos
Portisch, the Hungarian grand-
master, who is one of four players
fighting for the right to challenge

Hungary came second after an easy 31-24 victory over Czechoslovakia, which fielded a

Britons fare badly in EEC bridge

Runaway chess victory

The game between Karpov and Kasparov was rated by some experts as the most interesting of the tournament. For the first five moves of the game, Karpov's carefully played d4-d5 move forced Kasparov to play e6-e7, which left him with a weak pawn structure.

FINAL ROUND RESULTS: Social Action beat Humbercup by 60-40; Young Men's beat Humbercup by 78-59; Young Women's beat Humbercup by 60-40.

FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Soviet Union 41, 2. Hungary 31, 3. Yugoslavia 29, 4. Canada 20, 5. Bulgaria and West Germany 15 each, 7. Czechoslovakia 14.

Britons fare badly in EEC bridge

[illegible]

André Simon fund

wealth nationally who has
an outstanding contribution
food production to take up

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

هكمان النحل

CURRENT COST ACCOUNTING
VALUATION OF
PROPERTY ASSETS
THROUGHOUT THE U.K.
Postlethwaite
4 Water Street, Liverpool L2 2EP
Tel: 051-256 6232

king a stand
inst
e imports,
e 21

British pressure for world inflation wins little support pre-summit meetings

By Blake
Economics Correspondent

As a meeting early in March, the big three—the United States, Germany and Japan—to refit. In Paris, the economic policy committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) met to discuss the world's economic situation. The committee's report, which was published last week, was a warning to the world's major economies. It said that the world's major economies were facing a common problem: inflation. The report said that inflation was a global phenomenon, and that it was a major threat to the world's economic stability. It called for a coordinated effort to combat inflation, and for a meeting of the big three to discuss the problem. The report also said that the world's major economies were facing a common problem: inflation. It called for a coordinated effort to combat inflation, and for a meeting of the big three to discuss the problem.

understanding pressures on the "big three" countries—the United States, Germany and Japan—to refit. In Paris, the economic policy committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) met to discuss the world's economic situation. The committee's report, which was published last week, was a warning to the world's major economies. It said that the world's major economies were facing a common problem: inflation. The report said that inflation was a global phenomenon, and that it was a major threat to the world's economic stability. It called for a coordinated effort to combat inflation, and for a meeting of the big three to discuss the problem. The report also said that the world's major economies were facing a common problem: inflation. It called for a coordinated effort to combat inflation, and for a meeting of the big three to discuss the problem.

have to moderate its position sharply, thus dimming still further any hopes the Government might have had that external demand will provide the basis for more rapid United Kingdom growth. The summit meeting is likely to review progress on providing finance in countries in difficulties, and will probably look at the results of this week's meetings of the International Monetary Fund in Washington and see what more can be done to help deal with problems caused by the need to recycle. It will also almost certainly show that the Western nations have now all but reached a common position for their forthcoming talks in the conference on international economic cooperation, or the North-South dialogue, as it is more popularly called, at least in the fairly restricted circles in which it is discussed at all. There will be acceptance of something which can be called a common commodities fund, to finance buffer stocks for commodity agreements.

Shell pump prices likely to rise by 3p a gallon

By Our Energy Correspondent

Another round of increases in the price of oil products, including petrol, is expected to be announced under the Shell group. Similar announcements from other main oil producers including Esso and British Petroleum are expected later in the week. An application by Shell for a 2.5p a gallon across-the-board rise in prices based on higher crude oil import costs, was accepted by the Price Commission at the end of last week. Over the weekend the company has been debating how the overall increase should be divided among the various products, a process that has been made more complicated by the Budget increases on petrol and all product taxes. The new tax on fuel oils has lessened the oil companies' competitiveness with natural gas and coal for industrial purposes and has practically ruled out any standstill on petrol prices. It seems likely there will be a fairly even spread of price increases across the board with petrol bearing its full 2.5p a gallon which, with VAT, would increase pump prices by 3p a gallon.

Workers must give approval for any talks with GEC Parsons pledge on merger

By Roger Vile

By thousands of workers in the North-East employed by C. A. Parsons on building turbine generators for power stations, the company that there will be no merger talks with the GEC group without the approval of their union representatives. Already union leaders have told Parsons management that they are bitterly opposed to any government solution to the problems of the power generation industry that would allow GEC to take over the C. A. Parsons part of the Reynolds Parsons group. The assurance was given after rumours reached the north-east that the Government had approved in principle the idea that Parsons should merge with GEC, GEC managing director, to merge Parsons into GEC's turbine generator business. Under its revised plans for the industry, the Government would place an order for the second stage of the 2,000 megawatt coal-fired power station at Drax with the merged GEC-Parsons company, on the understanding that work on the contract was to be done by Parsons plants in the North-East. Rumours of this solution have provoked an angry response from the Parsons unions, which still favour the formation of a national turbine generator in which Parsons and GEC



Sir Arnold Weinstock: facing opposition

Board, later this week over the controversial 500m Drax B power station order. Over the weekend it emerged that the CEBG chief appears to be at loggerheads with the Electricity Council in his estimates over the cost to the consumer of bringing forward the order. The row between Sir Arthur and Mr Benn erupted publicly last week when Sir Arthur let it be known that he was not prepared to offer Mr Benn in placing an order for the station until the Government would provide between £10m and £15m compensation to avoid the cost being passed on to consumers. Bringing the order forward is designed to save jobs in the power generating plant industry. But at the weekend there were suggestions that while the Electricity Council fully supported the CEBG's stand in principle, its own calculations on the cost of the station, including the cost of the Drax B, were substantially lower than the board estimate. The Electricity Council, the electricity industry's supreme body, whose chairman, Mr Frank Tombs, will also attend the meeting with Mr Benn, has reportedly estimated that the additional cost would be between £35m-£45m, which is a relatively small amount spread over several years.

Shares gain from Bonn's falling rates of interest

West German capital market interest rates should pass below another significant point today when the Federal Reserve consortium meets in Frankfurt to decide the terms of a new public offering from the West German federal railways. The loan, which is expected to have an overall volume of DM1700m (about £175m), is virtually assured of carrying a coupon of only 6 1/2 per cent. It was only at the beginning of this month that a long-term domestic bond was issued with a coupon below the important psychological barrier of 7 per cent. Some DM600m worth of an 18 1/2 per cent federal Government 10-year bond were placed on sale with a 6 1/2 per cent nominal interest rate and priced to yield 6 3/4 per cent. The issue was rapidly over-subscribed, paring the way for the 6 1/2 per cent type of loan. Since then, the German domestic bond market has remained firm, and market operators believe that in present circumstances a 6 1/2 per cent issue with a life of perhaps eight years could be placed with ease. Arguing against this is a recent warning from the West German Federal Bank, which is opposed to a too rapid decline in rates. Both the Federal Bank and German commercial banks have raised their long-term bond rates around 6 1/2 per cent, interest rates in West Germany are no longer a cost factor limiting investment decisions. However, there is still no sign of the long-awaited surge in industrial investment which is expected to develop if the German economy is to develop into a spirited upwards movement. New analyses of the state and outlook of the West German economy are due later this week. Meantime, the downward trend in interest rates has started a surge in the West German share market. Over the last week share prices rose to touch new highs for the year, encouraging some hopes that an investment revival may not be too far away.

Peter Norman

Reports on newsprint pricing completed

From Edward Townsend
Stockholm, April 24

Lengthy initial reports have been completed by European Commission investigators into imports of newsprint to Community countries. The inquiry coincides with allegations from British and other EEC newspaper publishers that foreign newsprint suppliers have been operating a cartel. The reports, each dealing with the newsprint supply and pricing situation in individual countries and running to 20-25 pages in length, have been compiled by officials of the Commission's competition directorate in Brussels. But a spokesman said it could take two or three months for any recommendations to be made. Newspaper producers in Sweden and Finland, the main suppliers to Europe's newspaper industry, have denied strongly any "cartel" allegations. The British protest came after the imposition of a £40 per tonne newsprint price increase on January 1 by the Canadian Newsprint Association, coupled with almost identical currency clauses designed to protect the suppliers against any further falls in the value of sterling. Publishers maintained that the differing performance of the pound against the Swedish krona and the dollar meant that at least the currency clauses should have been different. A month later, a leading Canadian supplier reduced the increase to £27, a move followed by other Canadian and Nordic producers. The wide-ranging EEC inquiry began months before the cartel allegations were made and started in Italy. Later it moved to France and Holland and the United Kingdom. One importer was told that the inquiry was not connected with the cartel issue, but the EEC official said that with Europe relying to a great extent on Scandinavian and Canadian newsprint, it was not evidence of a cartel. The Nordic producers' reply to the allegations has been that with such a limited number of suppliers, similar pricing policies were inevitable, but this was not evidence of a cartel.

Fresh attempt to end Ford 10-day dispute

By R. W. Shakespeare
Northern Industrial
Correspondent

Fresh talks are to be held today between Union Security and management at the Ford car plant at Halewood on Merseyside in another attempt to settle the ten-day-old strike by 1,000 engineering workers. Ford had to lay off 8,000 other assembly line and body shop workers at Halewood where production of Escort cars worth more than £10m has been lost during the past week. On Friday another 1,000 workers were sent home from Ford's Transit van factory at Southampton, and from today production losses there will be running at about £1m worth of vehicles a day. The strikers, mostly mem-

bers of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, are demanding stronger representation on the company's national and local negotiating machinery. Their dispute began over the suspension by the management of eight men who, it claimed, had held an unauthorized meeting during working hours. At Leyland's Jaguar car plant in Coventry production will be at a standstill for the second week running from this morning with 5,000 assembly and component workers laid off because of a strike by 80 internal truck drivers who are demanding reclassification into a higher wage grade. During last week this dispute caused production losses of more than £3m of Jaguar cars.

Mr Healey to attack sharp cut in American economic package

From Frank Vogl
Washington, April 24

This week's monetary meetings in Washington will cover several important topics: Key US finance ministers will work on the agenda for the summit conference in London; plans will be approved in principle to strengthen the resources of the International Monetary Fund; and major commercial banks. Mr Healey, the Chancellor, who will be attending the inter-ministerial meeting of the IMF at the end of this week, is expected to arrive here today, likely to be in an angry mood. Leaders suggest that he will tell his American opposite, Mr Michael Blumenthal, bluntly that the recent United States action to cut sharply this year's economic stimulus programme will end hopes of more German and Japanese reflationary measures. The net result, Mr Healey said, is likely to be a significant blow to expectations of a better world trade level this year. A more friendly atmosphere is likely in the formal sessions

of the IMF's interim committee meetings. There will be no final decisions taken on how much the fund's resources will be increased or precisely how the plan proposed by Dr Johannes Witterstein, the IMF managing director, for a new supplementary facility for the fund will be approved. Moreover, the committee is ensuring the establishment of this facility in time for the fund's annual meeting in late September. Discussions are also likely within the committee on the strengthening of the fund's surveillance powers over the financial markets and over the complicated matter of ensuring a continued high level of private bank lending to deficit countries through strengthening IMF contractual ties. IMF bankers agree that the private sector will continue to play the major role in providing the vast sums that deficit

countries will seek in a few years. There are fears that commercial banks will be too worried about the risks involved in much of this lending and that they may consequently reduce their foreign lending considerably. There are also fears by central bankers that some common "greater IMF" commercial bank cooperation (apart from private bankers themselves) appears to be the United States Federal Reserve Board. Only last week the Fed's position was clearly outlined when one of its governors, Dr Henry Wallich, told a congressional committee that he might favour the IMF playing a greater role in private bank lending through loan agreements. He noted that much greater coordination could not only give greater assurance of smoother capital flows to countries in need, but it would also prevent borrowing countries from being able to look to private banks as a means of circumventing conditionality that the IMF had attempted to establish.

World Bank chief reelected

The board of directors of the World Bank has reelected today that Mr Robert McNamara, President of the Bank, to be reappointed to serve another five-year term when his present term expires on April 1, next year.

Union talks today on steel strike

Hopes of finding a peace formula to end the Port Talbot steelworks strike deadline now centre on a union meeting at Bromley, Kent, today. The executive of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, will be reassessing the unofficial action taken by 560 of its members which has crippled Britain's biggest steel plant, laid off 6,700 men and cost more than £20m of lost production. The striking electricians, who walked out more than four weeks ago over pay differences, insist they will not go back until the British Steel Corporation make an offer. But the BSC does not want to negotiate with unofficial strikers and argues that the electricians' claim would break the pay policy and wreck differentials at all the corporations' plants. The union's appeals to the strikers to return to work have been rejected and the meeting will hear a special report from Mr Bernard Clarke, the South Wales executive.

MPs explore Washington Civil Service

From Our United States
Economics Correspondent
Washington, April 24

A visiting group of British MPs have been impressed by the professional and wide range of activities of the United States General Accounting Office. They may propose changes in the British Civil Service system on the basis of what they saw here. Mr Michael English, Labour MP for Nottingham, West, the chairman of the general sub-committee of the public expenditure committee, said that he would want to discuss aspects of the GAO's operations with the United Kingdom comptroller and auditor general. He said that his sub-committee hoped to publish a report in June or July on making the Civil Service "more efficient and efficient". He noted that the GAO spent much of its resources on management audits and cost/benefit analyses and half of its staff were professional accountants. More could possibly be done in these areas by the British comptroller's office. Most of the sub-committee's members have spent a hectic week in Washington learning about United States public administration. Some of the members flatly asserted that there was little the Americans could teach the British, with mismanagement of fiscal affairs quite evident here. Significantly, the committee members did not meet any United States cabinet secretaries and, despite their intended public learning about the racial and big Government reorganization plans being prepared by President Carter. These amount to the largest and broadest attempt yet made by any single Government to overhaul its machinery.

Gatt aid sought on footwear curbs

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Britain's footwear makers, with trade union backing, are to ask the Government for protection against mounting foreign imports under the Article 19 safeguard clause of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The British Footwear Manufacturers Federation and the National Union of Footwear Leather and Allied Trades are alarmed at the "violent upsurge" which has already taken place in often low-cost imports. They also believe worse is to come because of rates announced last week which will allow at least an estimated 100 million pairs of various footwear largely to the European market and Britain in particular. The industry will urge Mr Dell, the Secretary of State for Trade, to bring in quotas on all imports from non-EEC sources. They want the quotas based on 1974 import levels, the same benchmark as used in the United States. They also want quota levels to be categorized so that imports of largely cheaper non-leather footwear could not

easily switch to bringing in higher value leather footwear. There has been increasing concern in the trade at evidence of an increasing trend for Pacific basin countries to send in higher quality leather footwear, competing most directly with traditional British production. Mr Dell will be told that action is essential if the industry in its present form is to survive what both sides describe as an avalanche of imports. Imports, which stood at 21.2 per cent in 1966, had risen to 34.8 per cent by the end of 1975 and to 41 per cent at the end of last year. For last year as a whole the increase over 1975 was 23 per cent but the third quarter figure was 30 per cent on the same period of 1975 and the fourth quarter showed a 42 per cent rise. The rise last year was despite an EEC tariff level of around 17 per cent. Mr Dell will be told there is particular alarm at the likely expansion of imports from South Korea and Taiwan, the two countries worst hit by the coming United States restrictions. There are forecasts that South

UK opposition grows to Hitachi plan

Television manufacturers are stepping up their pressure on the Government to squash plans by the Japanese Hitachi company to establish a television assembly plant in Britain. Yesterday a spokesman for the Radio Industry Council, which has spearheaded the campaign against the Hitachi plan, said: "Manufacturers and trade union leaders in the consumer electronics industry are 100 per cent against the Government allowing Hitachi to assemble television sets in Britain. It is quite fantastic that any company, let alone Hitachi, should be allowed to set up a totally new plant at a time when the domestic industry is working at only about 60 per cent of its capacity. In the few weeks since the Hitachi plan emerged, trade union leaders and British television manufacturers have been engaged in talks to mobilize opposition. Later this week representatives of the big television companies, shop stewards and trade union leaders will have talks at the Commons with MPs representing constituencies with television assembly plants in an effort to step up the pressure on the Government."

National savings at record level

National savings have soared to record levels. There was a net inflow of £694.3m in the year ending March 26 this year, according to the National Savings Committee, which together with estimated net accrued interest of £418.1m, has contributed to £12,919.1m invested in all forms of National Savings. The committee said that the improvement over the previous twelve months was almost wholly due to sales of National Savings Certificates. In March, certificate results were the best ever recorded.

UK opposition grows to Hitachi plan

Leaders of the Radio Industry Council, led by Lord Thorneycroft, its chairman, have already protested to Mr Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry. Whitehall officials have had a series of talks with various officials of the Japanese company but no decisions have been taken. The council is afraid that the move forms part of a long-term strategy by Japanese electronics companies to dominate the EEC market. There has been concern in Europe at Britain's agreement to allow Sony and Matsushita to set up plants in Britain.

Hauliers to seek area negotiations

Road haulage employers have decided to negotiate directly with the hauliers through their trade association as a result of the Government's abolition of the industry's wages council. In a circular to members, the Road Haulage Association says that its national council has decided to alter its policy on industrial relations and in future engage actively in negotiating directly with the unions on an area basis.

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Lending rate 8 1/2 pc

The Bank of England's minimum lending rate was cut from 9 to 8 1/2 per cent, in line with the fall in Treasury Bill rates. The following are the results of Friday's Treasury Bill Tender:

Bids at 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m
At 51.127m	Accepted 250m

NESTLE ALIMENTANA S.A.

Cham and Vevey (Switzerland)

THE 110TH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Is to be held at 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, 12th May, 1977, at the "PALAIS DE BEAULIEU" LAUSANNE (Switzerland)

AGENDA

1. Address by the Chairman of the Board of Directors.
2. Modifications of the Articles of Association.
3. Approval of the Accounts for 1976 and of the Annual Report.
4. Release from responsibility of the Board of Directors and of the Management.
5. Decision regarding the appropriation of the net profit.
6. Elections in accordance with the Articles of Association.

The owners of bearer shares may obtain their cards giving admission to the general meeting (with a proxy) at the Company's Transfer Office in Cham on Monday, 9th May, 1977, at noon, at the latest. The cards will be delivered against the statement of a bank that the shares are deposited or upon deposit of the shares in the offices of the Company where they will remain blocked until the day after the general meeting.

The report Nestlé 1976, with the annual report of Nestlé Alimentana S.A. (comprising the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Account with comments, the Auditors' Report and the proposals for the appropriation of profits) as well as the proposals of the Board of Directors regarding the modifications of the Articles of Association are available as from 27th April, 1977, to the holders of bearer shares at the Registered Offices at Cham and Vevey, and at the offices of the Paying Agents of the Company.

The holders of registered shares whose names are entered in the Share Register will, within the next few days, receive at their last address communicated to the Company, an envelope containing the Notice for the General Meeting, together with a form comprising an application for obtaining a card giving admission to such meeting as well as a proxy. On the other hand, the aforesaid Report and proposals will be despatched a few days later.

As a minimum number of shares are required to be represented at the General Meeting for changing the corporate name, the shareholders are requested to let another shareholder, a bank for example, represent them, or to send us a blank proxy. In this case we shall exercise the right to vote according to the Board of Directors' proposals.

Article 15 of the Articles of Association requires that a number of shareholders representing at least one half of the share capital be present in order to change the corporate name. However, according to the same article, when this quorum is not reached in a first General Meeting, a second General Meeting may be held immediately after, a first and thereafter a decision shall be valid if taken by an absolute majority of the votes cast, without regard to the number of shares represented.

Therefore, in view of the possibility that the aforementioned quorum should not be reached, this notice also serves to convene the shareholders to an

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

which will be held on Thursday, 12th May, 1977, immediately after the Ordinary General Meeting and at the same place, in order to decide on the alteration of the Articles of Association. The shareholders having attended the Ordinary General Meeting are also entitled to attend the Extraordinary General Meeting, the proxies conferred being valid for both meetings.

The shareholders are requested to address any correspondence concerning the General Meeting to the Transfer Office of the Company at Cham (Switzerland).

Cham and Vevey
25th April, 1977.

The Board of Directors

The fourth in a series of case studies describing the circumstances leading to the loss of a job

When an employee is driven to leave through victimization

The case

Vic Moore worked as a lathe operator for W. W. Baxter in Manchester. He had been employed by the company since March, 1969. He received a back injury in July, 1973, and as a result had had between three and six weeks off in each of the subsequent three years. The time off had been taken in separate short periods.

This attendance record had given the company some cause for concern and in January, 1975, the works manager, Mr Stephen Gibbon, had indicated to Mr Moore that "because of your health record the company is not sure whether you will be able to keep your job in the future". No further comments of this sort were made to Mr Moore by the works manager or any other member of the managerial or supervisory staff.

During the period from

Dismissal and the law by Geoff Smith

The characters and the company described are fictitious and do not represent any person or organization in real life

January, 1975, to October, 1976, Vic Moore felt that his foreman, Mr Eric Richardson had "picked on him" on a number of occasions. Mr Richardson had reported Mr Moore to the works manager for minor infringements of company rules or for other forms of behaviour of which he was disapproved.

On one occasion Mr Moore was two minutes late in returning to his lathe from a tea break. Another time he arrived for work five minutes late and a third complaint concerned four visits to the lavatory one

morning between 8 am and 12 noon.

There were other similar incidents. Vic Moore was usually spoken to in a harsh and peremptory manner by Mr Richardson and on occasions there had been sarcastic remarks about his enthusiasm for the job.

Vic Moore was quite sure from his observations and discussions with fellow employees that he was being treated more harshly than they were. As a result, he asked the works manager's secretary repeatedly to arrange an interview with Mr

Gibbons. On no occasion was Mr Moore either invited for an interview or given reasons why one could not be arranged.

In October 1976, Mr Richardson the foreman was waiting by Vic Moore's lathe at the start of the morning shift. When Mr Moore arrived Mr Richardson said: "I have just inspected the machine and the surrounding area and I have found this filth on the ground below your lathe." He pointed to a slightly soiled area and went on to say: "It is perfectly clear to me that you did not bother to clean up properly at the end of yesterday's shift."

Vic Moore replied: "This is victimization" and went straight to the personnel office and handed in his notice.

While he was working out his notice he obtained the appropriate form from the local Department of Employment office and complained of unfair dismissal.

Would the tribunal have found fair or unfair dismissal in this case?

Assessment

Probably the tribunal would have found that Vic Moore had been unfairly dismissed. Schedule 1 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974 allows that where an employee terminates the contract, with or without notice, "in circumstances such that he is entitled to terminate it without notice by reason of the employer's

conduct" he will still be dismissed.

When an employer unilaterally makes changes in, for example, an employee's pay, benefits, status, place or work rules governing conduct then that amounts to a serious repudiation or breach of the contract of employment. If the employee leaves as a consequence he may still keep his dismissal rights.

On the other hand, an

employer may alter terms and conditions if the contract allows for such changes either expressly in so many words, written or spoken, or implied by statute or custom and practice. An employer may also alter terms and conditions if an employee accepts them either in so many words or goes on working under the new terms without protest.

An act of serious misconduct by the employer allowing the employee to resign and still claim his dismissal rights has become known as constructive dismissal. Also there have been a number of cases where the employer's conduct consists of a number of acts which individually would not justify constructive dismissal, but if taken together accumulate to form a repudiatory breach of the contract by the employer.

In *Fanshawe v Robinsons and Sons*, 1975, *Fanshawe*, employed as a grinder, complained that acts of victimization by his foreman had led to his resignation. The foreman had been more severe in dealing with Mr Fanshawe than the other employees and he had reported him for minor infringements of the shop rules. The "last straw" occurred when the foreman inspected Mr Fan-

shaw's machine with "feelers". When he found some dirt he accused Mr Fanshawe of not keeping his machine clean. The foreman was, in the words of the Sheffield tribunal, "anything but sympathetic". The tribunal concluded that the series of hostile acts by the foreman had led Mr Fanshawe to feel that he could no longer tolerate the treatment he was receiving. It held that Mr Fanshawe's resignation was a dismissal under Schedule 1 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974.

The company, it appears, had merely disputed that Mr Fanshawe had been dismissed so that when the tribunal found constructive dismissal it was then found to be automatically unfair.

In our fictional case of Vic Moore it is evident that there were a number of acts by the employer, comparable in nature to those in the case of *Fanshawe v Robinsons and Sons*, 1975, which could be taken to form a repudiatory breach of the contract of employment by W. W. Baxter.

The author is a member of the academic staff of Astonridge Management College.

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Europa

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WATERFORD GLASS 22nd year of record profits

Results and Dividends

Profits before tax amounted to £6.75 millions, an increase of 43% compared with the previous year.

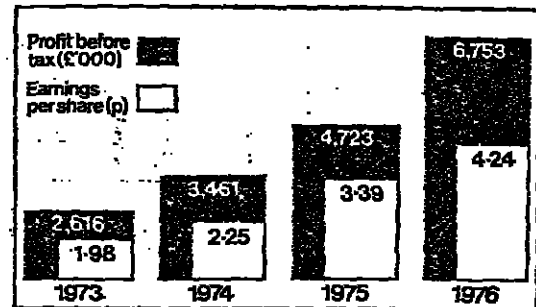
An increased final dividend of 20% is being recommended which together with the interim dividend of 12½% makes a total of 32½% compared with 22½% last year. This dividend is covered 3.35 times compared with 3.05 times last year.

While inflation has not been fully controlled we are hopeful that the Company will continue to prosper at a rate in excess of that of inflation thus enabling the very conservative dividend policy which has been maintained over the years to be somewhat relaxed in the future.

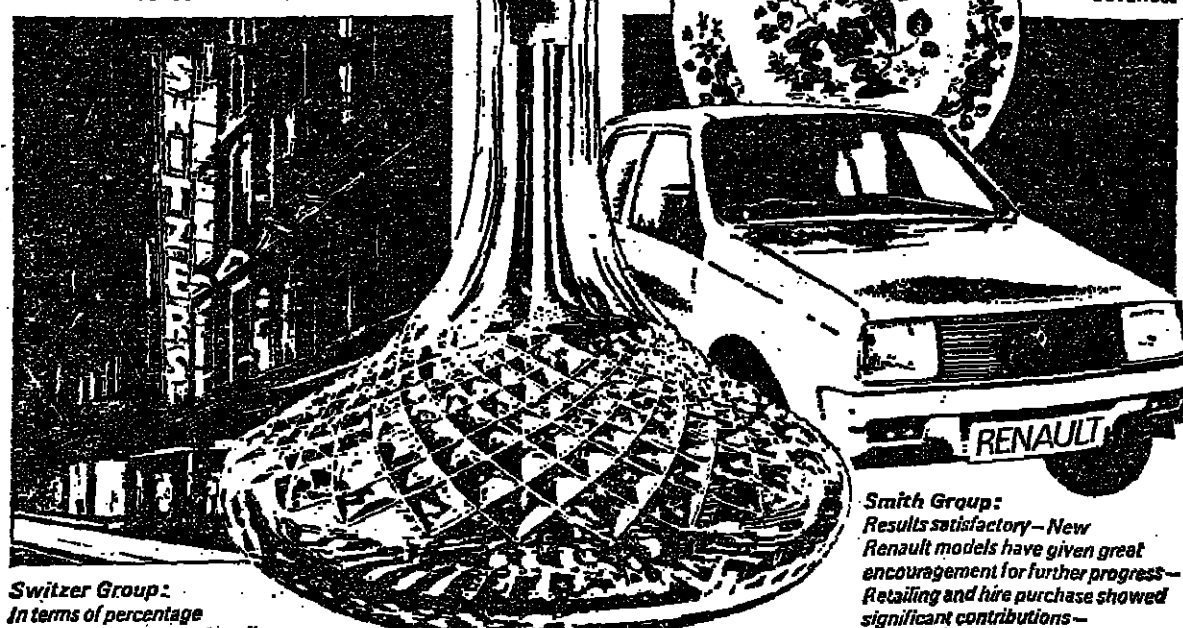
It is proposed to make a bonus issue of one ordinary share for every three held by shareholders.

The Future

Present indications are that 1977 will see further progress although, as yet, it is too early to identify the extent of this progress, particularly in the retail area where the second half of the year is always more significant.



Aynsley China: Rate of progress in line with Waterford Crystal - Very hopeful of further advance.



Switzer Group: In terms of percentage growth in turnover and profits, the Switzer Group showed by far the highest gain of any member company - More vigorous marketing and considerable improvements within stores contributed to the excellent growth.

Waterford Crystal: Considerable improvement in sales - Margins up - Further increase in sales and profits expected.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from The Secretary at Kilbarr, Waterford, Ireland.

Eaton gears up for the European truck market

British and European motor component manufacturers have been forecasting for some time now that major changes in traditional methods of producing commercial vehicles would bring them important new business. But it has taken an American company to put this prophecy to the test with an exciting gamble.

The Eaton Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio, has invested heavily to build a new 350,000 sq ft transmission plant in St. Nazaire on the French Atlantic coast. When it opens its doors in two months time it will inject a new dimension into the economics of European truck manufacture.

St. Nazaire will have the capacity to produce 24,000 heavy duty gearboxes annually and this can be raised to 36,000 without too much trouble. Add to this the 60,000 units which Eaton can already build at its recently expanded Manchester and Basingstoke plants and it will be apparent that this is a full scale assault on Europe by one of the world's leading transmission and axle manufacturers.

The prize is the lion's share of the new business becoming available as the truck makers change to buying transmissions instead of producing them in their own factories. A number of factors are forcing the change - not least the cost savings of purchase from a specialist volume producer and the ability to divert investment to more urgent and rewarding fields.

But the biggest attraction for many must be Eaton's Fuller transmission with its unique twin counter shaft concept. It is lighter, shorter, and lower-stressed than conventional designs permitting it to be linked to the higher powered engines in use today and still leave the maximum vehicle length for load carrying.

Since it was first conceived in 1959 over one million Fullers have been built. Indeed, so successful is the Fuller system that Eaton are using it as the basis for the truck industry's first universal heavy duty transmission available and interchangeable worldwide.

When St. Nazaire comes on stream in June its Fullers will be interchangeable with those produced in Britain at Manchester and Basingstoke; in the United States at Kalamazoo (Michigan), Shelbyville (Tennessee), Shenandoah (Iowa) and King's Mountain (North Carolina). It is this security of reason, strikes, breakdowns and the like, which is very appealing to European truck makers.

But Eaton's president, Paul Miller, is only too well aware that much as they would like to jump on his bandwagon, European truck makers must tread softly if they are not to invite trouble from their unions. With many thousands of jobs still dependent on the manufacture of in-house transmissions, the switch to bought-in components must be carefully timed to allow existing labour to be diverted to alternative work.

For this reason he refuses to talk in detail about the firms who will be taking St. Nazaire's output while at the same time insisting that it will all be spoken for before the end of the year.

Under pressure, however, he does admit that Fiat will become a major customer for the new French factory.

Since they arrived in Britain in the early 1960s the Eaton men have made a significant impact. Today it is estimated that they hold some 10 per cent of the British heavy axle market and about 20 per cent in Europe as a whole. And although they entered the transmissions market here much later they already claim to hold some 90 per cent of the United Kingdom heavy truck business and 30 per cent of all classifications. To do that they have doubled their business annually for the past three years but still insist that they are only scratching the surface of what is potentially their biggest European market.

They claim that they are working on transmissions with all the major European truck builders except Mercedes in Germany and Scania in Sweden. The cloud on the horizon for Eaton could be the automatic gearbox. At present its use is largely restricted to passenger transport vehicles operating in large cities but its adaptation to heavy trucks has been widely forecast.

Mercedes and Iveco, the Italian-German commercial vehicle group led by Fiat, have both announced plans to produce automatic gearboxes. So have Giesse, Keen and Nuttall, Britain's biggest engineering group. Leyland also has a contender through its Coventry based subsidiary Self Changing Gears, which already supplies automatics for most of this country's buses.

Eaton's answer is the "Snapper", a gearbox which only uses the clutch for starting and stopping. It costs considerably less than a fully automatic transmission.

Eaton insists that it is tooled up ready to put the Snapper into volume production if demand warrants it. "In other words we have a well-proven design, all ready to react to any change in truck fashions", says Bob Richards, Eaton vice-president in charge of the truck component group worldwide.

Clifford Webb

Evidence on status of engineers

From Professor M. J. French
Sir, Mr Heathfield (April 18) wonders how long statements about the status of engineers in this country will continue without evidence. The evidence has been around for a long time. Forces has shown in several studies that in the United Kingdom, the relative earnings of engineers are much lower than in the countries we compete with. Our failures in international trade are conspicuously in those areas dependent on engineering skill, but not in those where engineers' earnings are higher than average (civil consultancy and chemical engineering).

He suggests it is hard to see how there can be a shortage of

engineers at a time when they are poorly paid, because he thinks they are like coffee. I cannot follow this argument, but when rebuilding is not a pot forward ready by Professor Blais. If you offer pot of rakers, there will be a shortage of rakers: is that not sound economics? May I suggest that any company offering salaries on a basis of relative to other professions comparable with that in France or Sweden will find an abundance of engineers?

However, the most striking evidence comes from studies of the wastage of engineers. Jeffries found that the average engineering graduate in his sample worked for only seven years as an engineer, and Singh's findings were similar. I believe they go to better paid,

more highly thought-of, more secure, more pleasant surroundings. They can do this because they are more of them, educated, and above moderate in useful ways, those are salable commodities nowadays, that might be compared with coffee, desirable, that engineers graduate should diffuse other areas, but not on the they are doing, and not a pressures that lead to a mental loss of the most of Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL FRENCH,
Department of Engineering, University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster, LA1 4YR, April 18.

Enough to feed the children

From Mr P. E. Curtis
Sir, Our Treasury experts do not show much understanding of family problems in their tax allowances for children. The so-called Child Benefit Scheme which is an amalgam of tax allowances and family allowances amounts to £2.50 per week whereas the National Food Survey as quoted in the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* (February 1977) indicates that expenditure per head per week was £4.49 in the third quarter of 1976. Surely one should be allowed to retain enough of one's income at least to pay for food for one's children, or is there some sophisticated reason behind this strange policy?

Yours faithfully,
P. E. CURTIS,
11 Boughton Hall Drive, Chester, April 21.

Never a dull moment

From Mr Hubert Nicholson
Sir, What fun it is to live in the Age of Wonderland! Two items from today's news:

1. After all the anti-smoking propaganda, stronger warnings on cigarette packets, and moratoriums in public places, the Queen gives an export award to an enterprising firm of cigarette manufacturers.
2. Nixon asks the Supreme Court to say that by holding on to cigarette packs, the United States Government is violating his privacy!

Never a dull moment. Yours faithfully,
HUBERT NICHOLSON,
Kerth Cottage,
3 Albert Road,
Epsom, Surrey, April 21.

From Mr J. C. Cooper
Sir, To the casual reader it would have been easy to miss the full consequences of the conclusions of Mr Dalgleish in his letter on railway freight (April 19).

In suggesting that we take the rails off the railway network he cannot have intended to imply that the tracks be left fallow thereafter; he does, indeed, imply that the railways form a "route network of incomparable potential". Inevitably, the conclusion of a chairman of the Railway Conversion League would be to turn the railways into roads.

Here at the Transport Studies Group we recently evaluated the conversion idea based on case studies and in our report published last month we concluded that the conversion principle was essentially a weak one. In particular, it was found that costings assumed by pro-conversionists were highly suspect, especially in respect of road construction where there was an under-valuation of costs by a factor of eight.

It is not too demanding an exercise, perhaps, to identify the ills of British Rail but the suitability of a cure is another matter. Mr Weighell, Mr Buck-

should have more to offer in this direction than the Railway Conversion League by being more realistic about overmanning, for example. Yours faithfully,
J. C. COOPER,
Research Fellow,
Transport Studies Group,
The Polytechnic of Central London,
35 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5LS, April 19.

From Mr David Henry
Sir, I would challenge Mr Angus Dalgleish's three assumptions about railway/road costs in his "Business News" letter of April 19.

His asserted positive tax contribution by road users as a whole to the Exchequer is quickly turned into a "negative" if the true environmental and other costs of road traffic are taken into account - a recent true, rather than a perceived, costing has given a figure of a debit approaching £1,000m per annum (plus the cost of accidents).

Far from rail freight being subsidised by passenger services as chapter eight of the Transport Green Paper states,

nothing costs more than avoid it. If there were no freight business, together with a proper share of the administrative and internal charges. Further, most freight trains run over main lines which also carry the passenger services which are now approaching viability, that is the existing routes, and are the least subsidised by the taxpayer.

To say that railway assets have no value measured by a cash return on capital yardstick only is to conveniently forget all the other benefits. Not one passenger killed last year on our railways, compared with over 6,000 on the roads, will I hope be considered by many of us as one of many good returns on capital.

Finally with the coming oil shortage impinging on our minds ever more - we as a person than President Carter the latest to remind us - it is not roads that need electric railway lines laying on them? Yours sincerely,
DAVID R. L. HENRY,
1 Ivanhoe,
11 Old Hey Lane,
Widmore,
Wiltshire, W64 1TG, April 19.

Credit unions and industrial democracy

From Mr E. Sammons
Sir, The Bullock report proposes worker representation on the boards of companies through the medium of the trade unions. To recommend a body so politically biased to carry out this function seems to be contrary to the pattern of industrial democracy to which the major political parties apparently subscribe. The "worker cooperation" of the socialists is the "partnership in industry" of the Conservatives. The issue should be competence, irrespective of political allegiance.

No government since 1946 seems to have given sufficiently serious consideration to this idea, which is not as revolutionary as it sounds. The Rochdale principles of co-operation were very much concerned with profit-sharing, the private enterprise, the John Lewis Partnership, to mention one, applies the same principle.

There is another avenue of approach as yet relatively unexplored in Great Britain, that is credit unions in industry. At present there are about 50 community credit unions in the country. These consist of groups of people with a common bond, that is residence - parish - club - work - who agree to save regularly to build up a common fund from which they can borrow at rates of interest lower than those of any commercial organization.

There is one credit union in a firm in Epsom. The late Lord Crowther in his report on Consumer Credit in Britain strongly recommended the government

to "unhinge the law" that restricted their growth and to give them every possible support.

An employees' credit union in a firm or several credit unions in a large factory could be the medium through which genuine worker cooperation or partnership might be realized. Credit unions could be represented on the board of directors - credit unions could perhaps buy shares in the firm.

Membership of such a credit

union must be voluntary and as credit unions are by charter inter-political, inter-denominational and inter-racial they would appear to be a rational medium through which industrial democracy might be achieved.

Yours faithfully,
E. SAMMONS,
Chairman,
National Federation of Credit Unions, 10 Albany Grove, London, SW20, April 20.

Thurgar Bardex Ltd.

The following are salient points from the circulated statement of Mr Anthony B. Tuson, Chairman.

★ Results We made a profit of £135,855 (1975-£78,728) before tax, two-thirds of which was attributable to the second half of the year. Sales have risen from £2,291,586 (1975) to £3,504,041.

★ Dividend A dividend for the year of 0.8122p per share for the year (maximum permitted) is recommended.

★ Thurgar Bolls Limited in 1976 we invested heavily in new machinery, acquiring six new injection moulding machines ranging from 165 to 800 tonnes, completely redesigning the screen printing section, and further improving our tool room equipment and capabilities. We now have a comprehensive range of the best equipment and a really impressive increase in productive capacity. Sales of our container range have improved satisfactorily and for the first time this has been complemented by substantially increased sales of industrial/technical mouldings.

★ Prospects The first quarter's trading in 1977 confirms the continued improvement in sales and profits which have resulted from our re-equipment and on current indications we anticipate a substantially improved first half-year.

Saarland struggles to find replacements for 10,000 steel jobs

West Germany's steelmakers have begun to hope that their industry may at last have started to pull out of the deep recession of the past two-and-a-half years.

New orders for rolled steel finished products rose by 30 per cent in March and topped the one million tonne mark for the first time in eight months.

But no matter how strong the recovery in steel, the long slump will leave scars, nowhere so deep as in West Germany's smallest non-city state—the Saar.

For the crisis in steel has exposed the peculiar structural weaknesses of the Saarland. While unemployment in West Germany as a whole has declined moderately over the past 12 months, the number of jobless in the Saar reached a post-war record in February. The state's unemployment rate is about 7.2 per cent against 4.8 per cent for the nation as a whole.

Whereas the federal labour office has reported a job vacancy for every four unemployed in West Germany, the ratio of vacancies to jobless in the Saar is one to 14.

Future prospects are grim. Unlike steel groups in other parts of Germany, the local steel concerns have begun a policy of cutting back their labour force through dismissals.

The Neunkircher Eisenwerk, in the eastern part of the state, has already sacked 300 workers, about a tenth of its labour force.

To the west in Volklingsen, Roßling-Burbach is dismissing a further 1,300 workers.

There is general agreement that if steelmaking is to survive in the Saar, the present small groups must be brought together and rationalized. But in the medium term this would cost jobs.

Herr Werner Klupp, the Saar's economic minister, calculates that 10,000 jobs in steel must be replaced, but at present there is no indication as to how this can be achieved.

Critics argue that the Saar government over the past 20 years has failed to build a modern industrial structure sufficiently diversified to withstand the periodic slumps in the state's coal and steel industries.

The Saar can point to some successes. At Saarbrücken the German subsidiary of Ford operates a large modern plant with a workforce of 8,000. It increased its workforce last year and is building the Fiesta small car for the German, Swiss and Scandinavian markets.

But the recession showed that many of the companies began to close down.

As in the case of Ford, state

Regional industry in Europe

aid was used to attract the American Bendix concern to set up a plant producing disc brakes. But this was closed in 1971, only three years after it opened, and at the height of its operations had employed only a third of the targeted 2,000-strong labour force. This example was repeated many times, during the recession.

The German trade union movement has accused the Saar government of adopting an active investment policy only after the coal crisis of the 1960s. They argue that in the boom years of the late 1950s and early 1960s, when other regions in Germany diversified their industrial bases, opportunities were squandered.

The government of that time has been accused of yielding to pressure from the old established iron and steel industry not to develop the Saar. The trade unions say that the steel industry was opposed to the settling of new industries as increased competition on the labour market would have pushed up wages.

At 27,500, the number of unemployed in February was in absolute terms a new postwar record. The Chamber of Industry and Trade expects that the deficit of jobs will increase to 39,000 by 1980 and 56,000 by 1985.

A continuing high unemployment rate and large-scale emigration would appear to be the inevitable consequence of the economic outlook, although the Government has energetically disputed a forecast from the Swiss Prognosis economic research institute that about 82,000 people will leave the state in the next 10 years, reducing its overall population by a ninth.

The Saar Government is now looking to Bonn for assistance to help pull out of its misery. Although federal and state government spending of DM 450m (£112m) in the period to 1980 is envisaged under the government's multi-year investment programme, the Saar would like DM 500m to DM 600m aid.

The chances of its receiving such an enormous sum from Bonn must be slim, although Dr Hans Friderichs, the West German economic minister, has declared a willingness to

Peter Norman



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THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR
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THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR
EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT 1977
TO DICK JAMES MUSIC LIMITED



A third Queen's Award for DJM

I feel very proud and very honoured to announce that Dick James Music Limited has been awarded The Queen's Award for Export Achievement 1977.

I am especially pleased as this means that we have received three Queen's Awards in a period of just five years.

Stephen joins me in thanking all the members of the Dick James Organisation including those in the Record Company, Publishing, Studio and Artists Agency Divisions in London and, of course, our many affiliates throughout the world for the tremendous effort which has helped us win this triple honour.

Over the last few years we have followed a definitive policy of expansion in order to become a truly world-wide organisation and this new Award for Export Achievement fully justifies this development. I am sure that in the future the same degree of enthusiasm will continue to be shown so that the same measure of success may be achieved.

Finally, I would like to say that these Awards not only reflect the dynamism and success of the Dick James Organisation but equally of the music industry as a whole, and as such I gladly associate our latest achievement with the endeavours of everyone who has made a contribution.



Dick James
CHAIRMAN



DIRECTORS: RICHARD JAMES FRANKS, JANE STEPHENSON, JAMES JAMES HOUSE 71-75 NEWPORT ROAD, LONDON WC1A 9PP
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Gatt warning on farm price snags

Geneva, April 24.—Protracted negotiations to free the flow of world trade will be impeded unless bargaining on farm products speeds up, the organizers of talks between 97 rich and poor countries said today.

The warning appeared in a report by the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade reviewing the activities of the 83-member body in 1976.

"A concerted effort would be needed in the coming months", it said, "to move the agricultural negotiations ahead more rapidly if they were not to hamper successful conclusion of the Tokyo round as a whole."

The negotiations were formally launched under Gatt auspices in Tokyo in 1973, but substantive talks began in Geneva only in 1976. The deadline, and now seem unlikely to meet a subsequent target of concluding them in 1977.

They are aimed at expanding world commerce in industrial and agricultural productivity by reducing tariff and dismantling other trade barriers. A procedural dispute between the United States and the EEC

has held up work in a negotiating group dealing with farm products.

The United States wants the negotiations to deal with industrial and agricultural commerce collectively so that it can trade off concessions in its home industrial market for concessions in the agricultural sphere by the EEC.

But the Community wants farm trade to be tackled separately, fearing that otherwise it would be exposed to American attempts to force changes in its common agricultural policy.

The Gatt report said the negotiations made substantial progress in 1976, but added: "It remains true to say, however, that most of the difficult political choices lie ahead. In some instances, agriculture being outstanding among them, no agreed basis for negotiations has yet been reached."

"Progress in 1977 will demand a determined and concerted effort—and some fresh thinking—by the participating countries. It is to be hoped that they will be helped in this by the gradual improvement in the economic climate."

It added that in 1976 some

of the seven negotiating groups dealing with various sectors of the bargaining "moved beyond examination of the various issues at stake to line-by-line negotiations on draft agreements."

The report noted that the negotiations last year brought their first concrete results, with industrialized countries giving trade concessions on a wide range of tropical products from developing states.

Reviewing world commerce generally, the report said: "International trade took a marked turn for the better in 1976, recovering quite sharply from the setback in the previous year, when it had suffered its first significant reduction in volume since the Second World War."

"There can, however, be no room for complacency about trade prospects. The recovery in world commodity output in 1976 was only half as rapid as that in trade, and unemployment levels are generally high."

"In 1977, as in 1976 many governments will formulate their trade policies against a background of continuing domestic unemployment, inflation and large payments imbalances."—Reuter.

Saudi crude surplus adds to spot glut

New York, April 24. There is an abundant supply of mid-east and African crude oil on the spot market for the short-term, but buyers are scarce because of the seasonal lull in demand and swollen crude inventories, Petroleum Intelligence Weekly says.

The surplus has been heightened by recent offers of additional volumes of low-priced Saudi crude from some of the United States partners in Aramco, according to PIW sources.

This surplus is hitting the upper-tier Opec crudes, the hardest, particularly the high-sulphur Mid-east grades. A lag in American buying has also depressed demand for lower sulphur African crudes.

PIW says the "extra" Saudi crude primarily is made available to refinery buyers that expressed interest in taking higher priced Iranian, Libyan or Nigerian crudes, while also having a "need" for Saudi oil.

The sellers carefully avoid all references to "package deals", though final transactions unquestionably involve anywhere from two barrels of upper-tier crude per barrel of Saudi down to straight one-to-one ratios, PIW says.

Several hundred thousand barrels a day of Saudi crude appear to be for sale over the second quarter, and possibly into the third.—AP-Dow Jones.

Tobacco price slump tipped if Rhodesia regime changes

Political changes in Rhodesia could result in a flood of tobacco production there that would depress world prices, according to a United States Government analysis released today.

The report by Mr Robert E. Haresnape, Agriculture Department foreign commodity analyst, said a new Rhodesian Government would probably give top priority to economic stability, with a big push for tobacco production and export earnings.

Noting that output had dwindled to around 85,000 tons from 138,000 tons before Rhodesia's unilateral declaration of independence in 1965, he said production could double to nearly 180,000 tons within five years, including 160,000 tons in exports.

This would depress world market prices, curtail demand for high-cost tobacco from countries like the United States and Canada, and cut the rate of expansion in many developing countries, he forecast.

However, Mr Haresnape said that a new regime in Rhodesia could also appropriate production units and nationalize the tobacco industry, which could have the opposite effect by disrupting production and causing a severe shortage of trained personnel.

But in the long run, a new Government would realize that

tobacco would be a top foreign exchange earner, second only to mineral exports.

He also noted that before Rhodesia's rebellion, Britain spent \$126m (nearly £750,000) a year on Rhodesian tobacco imports which had since been replaced by supplies from other nations, mainly America, Malawi and Tanzania.

He estimated that last year Rhodesia exported about 80,000 tons of tobacco, despite United Nations trade sanctions.

However, Rhodesia was now concerned about the future of the industry, because the recent military draft had reduced the number of workers available to harvest the crop, and because rail and road communications had been disrupted inside and outside the landlocked country, Mr Haresnape said.

In addition, the United Nations sanctions committee had advised member states not to trade with three Geneva-based companies believed to have facilitated exports of a large proportion of Rhodesia's tobacco in recent years.

He noted that since the United Nations embargo six countries—Argentina, Brazil, Malawi, Tanzania, Thailand, and South Korea—had increased total five-cured tobacco production from less than 300,000 tons in 1966 to more than 600,000 tons in 1975, increasing exports 30-fold during that period.—Reuter.

THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY



as the major manufacturers of
Handwoven Harris Tweed

KENNETH MACKENZIE HOLDINGS LIMITED

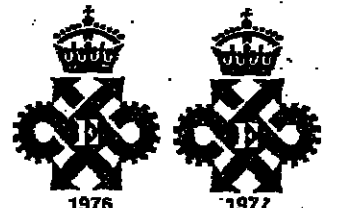
OF STORNOWAY, SCOTLAND

(A member of the Seet Group of Companies)

Are extremely proud to have achieved the Award which has been made possible by the concerted efforts of our employees and representatives abroad and the magnificent support from our customers in all markets.

We are proud to announce for the second year running the granting of The Queen's Award

for export achievement



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Hawker Siddeley Group supplies electrical and mechanical equipment with world-wide sales and service.

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Achievement in Her Majesty's Jubilee Year,

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Kandya Meredew Limited,
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Looking for Export Potential?

The president of one of the oldest well established Saudi companies from Riyadh with branch offices in Alkhobar and Jeddah is visiting London Feb. 17th-24th, and would like to have discussions with companies dealing in food products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, domestic appliances, electrical and electronics products, ready-made garments, shoes, transportation, insurance, automobiles, surgical products, hospital equipment, disposables, construction of buildings, roads, bridges, construction and building materials, shipping insurance, iron and steel, machinery, ferrous and non-ferrous, crockery, cutlery, metals, laboratory products and equipment, along with other products that any manufacturer can supply from the U.K.

FOR AN APPOINTMENT PLEASE CONTACT MR JAFFAR ALI MIRZA
452 GREEN LANE, ILFORD, ESSEX, IG3 9LF

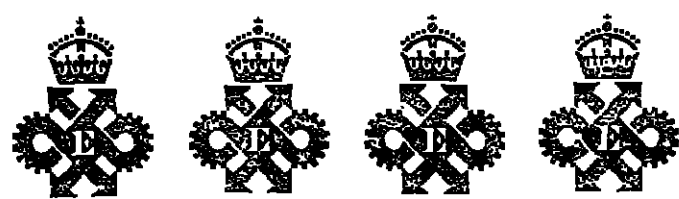
APOLLO ENTERPRISES

*Phone 01-580 8222/01-587 0633 (eves.)

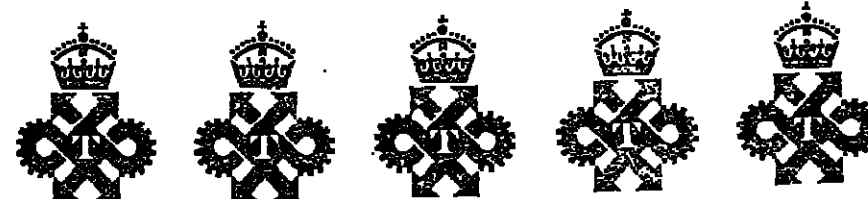
The telephone started ringing for the advertiser at 8.30 the morning this advertisement appeared. When the President of the company arrived from Saudi, 60 replies had already been received for him to process. He was delighted and will certainly use "Business to Business" again.

For details about Business Opportunities and other successful classifications appearing every Tuesday,

RING LOUISE LANG 01-278 9238/9/0

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The Queen's Awards 1977



**Carreras Rothmans Limited are proud to have been honoured
with the Queen's Award for Export Achievement.**

The Award Citation notes the fact that Carreras Rothmans are Britain's largest exporters of cigarettes. Last year alone, the Company's exports to 165 countries around the world earned the United Kingdom some £135 millions in foreign exchange.

In order to meet ever-increasing export demand, which takes up well over half our total production, the Company has recently opened its fourth factory in the UK, in Darlington, which will create 1,000 new jobs.

To all 5,500 Carreras Rothmans employees whose hard work has made this public recognition possible, and to our distributors and agents right around the world, the Company would like to say a heartfelt "well done".

As is well known, the globe is the background to our Company symbol.

The Queen's Award for Export Achievement shows that its presence there is no accident.

100-44352

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Sumitomo pioneer floating CD

But at the time of the floating rate CD has appeared. This is the first time that a floating rate London certificate of deposit has been issued.

The Sumitomo issue will be managed only by Sumitomo Finance International. There will be no underwriter. Interest will be twice a year at one quarter of one per cent above London interbank offered rates.

The rate is however subject to a minimum rate of 5.5 per cent through the three year life of the issue.

Sumitomo is Japan's third largest bank. The Bank of England recently announced its acceptance of the new instrument.

SG Warburg says that Bank of Tokyo (Curacao) Holdings NV is to issue US \$30m of 7 1/2 per cent Notes due 1984.

Grossland delivers the goods

the pre-tax profits of £173,363 of a debt of not much more owed by Court Travel (in liquidation).

Shareholders rights

The name Leslie Harris is gradually becoming familiar to investors as it is to journalists. He is the Eastbourne accountant who has put himself at the centre of one shareholder revolt after another, including the great crash in 1971.

Now he has had published "Shareholders Rights" by W. H. Allen. He says that shareholders have more rights than they think, but adds that they can expect little help from institutions when it comes to a tussle.

other hand Horizon has got back £173,363 of a debt of not much more owed by Court Travel (in liquidation).

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Oil Exploration

In his annual statement, Mr C. M. Dalley, chairman of Oil Exploration (Holdings), refers to a report on the subsidiary, Bates Oil Corporation, which "has placed a fair market value of £5.88m on BOC's interests". This valuation has been consolidated and the Oil Exploration balance sheet total is up from £1.65m at end 1975 to £3.95m at end 1976. Net

record first quarter

group to record significant gains over 1976 when it had net earnings per share of \$3.98. Sales in 1976 totalled \$2.13 billion.

Singer said that it had a first quarter revenue gain from sewing products compared with a

International

results of industrial sewing machines and related products. Consumer sewing machine products sales and operating income gained due to increased unit sales in a number of international markets and the success of electronic models in Europe. Income from continuing operations for the first quarter of 1977 was \$18.8m, compared with \$15.3m for the same period in 1976, an increase of 22.9 per cent.

Gulf explains drop

Pittsburgh, Gulf Oil Corporation blamed the drop in its first quarter results mainly to declines in worldwide chemical domestic petroleum, and Canadian operations.

On Tuesday, Gulf reported first quarter earnings of 85 cents a share on revenue of 4.8 billion dollars compared with 1.02 dollars a share on revenue of 4.4 billion dollars year ago. The group said that worldwide chemical earnings for the first quarter dropped to 13 million dollars from 47 million dollars in the same 1976 period. It said a slight decline in total sales volume masked an eight per cent drop in sales of higher value manufactured petrochemical products in the US and a 15 per cent drop in European volume.

Startup costs at a new olefins plant at Cedar Bayou, Texas, hurt earnings by about 10 million dollars, Gulf added.

Adams Foods big loss

Turnover for the half-year to March 31 for Adams Foods was £48.5m against £40.7m previously. But the pre-tax loss amounted to £145,000 against a profit of £524,000. There will be no interim dividend (78p). Meanwhile the company has reached agreement with the Fish Dairy Board, under which it will acquire 62m ordinary in Adams (16.2 per cent). The board considers the terms are fair and reasonable and in the best interests of all shareholders.

ITALIAN turnover for 1976, £5.96m (1975, £5.23m). Pre-tax profit £1.23m (1975, £1.03m). Gross dividend, 4.13p (1975, 3.75p).

UALA SELANGOR RUBBER turnover for 1976 up from £15,000 to £40,000 and pre-tax profit from £77,000 to £165,000. Gross dividend, 2.38p (2.18p).

ILFORD DOCKS pre-tax profit for 1976 rose from £45,000 to £186,000. Gross dividend, 4.12p (2.5p), subject to assets.

CAMPBELL & ISHERWOOD pre-tax profit for 1976 up from £38,000 to £601,000. Dividend of 1.18p gross, assuming tax rate of 10 per cent (against 3.69p last year).

WILLIAM SINDALL turnover for 1976 up from £14.2m to £17.9m and pre-tax profit from £201,000 to £334,000. Gross dividend raised from 5.16p to 5.69p.

BANK'S EUROBOND Creditanstalt-Bankverein, largest bank in Austria, plans to offer £4.5m floating-rate notes, due May.

Freight report

With little inquiry for tonnage out of the Gulf, tanker rates stayed about the same last week ending at Worldscale 22/22.5. The number of tankers waiting in the Gulf is seen as sufficient to meet current demand which is slow for all ship sizes.

Following on the trend of the previous week, the Caribbean sector continued to make ground with rates firming up accordingly. This meant that vessels above 60,000 dead weight tons were obtaining an average worldscale 65 while tankers between 50 and 60,000 tons dead weight were fixed at worldscale 74/75. Smaller tonnage also perked up, and 25/32,000 tonners were gaining worldscale 95/100.

Brokers are doubtful over how long the upward trend in the Caribbean will continue, but judging by the recovery which

emerged in the Gulf sector earlier this year it is likely to be short-lived.

By comparison the Mediterranean market remained gloomy. Rate levels were steady, but the amount of inquiry offered little hope for any change.

Among the small volume of period business done, Mobil took the Norwegian 285,000 ton vice Fabian for a three to five-year charter at escalating rate levels for each year. Starting at \$0.89 for the first year, it rises to \$1.05 for the second and \$1.50 in the third year.

For the two optional years, the rates agreed are \$1.50 and \$1.65 respectively. Chinese interest in fixing tonnage, in the dry cargo market, which has been one of the strongest elements in recent trading, helped maintain demand during last week. The Chinese requirements have not only included ships for grain cargoes, but also involved sulphur, coking coal and sugar consignments.

David Robinson

Evered moves out of red

A recovery was noticed by engineer Evered a year ago but shareholders were warned that it would take time for most of it to show through. So it is proving, slowly, but it seems surely. The directors now report that the better trend went on into the first three months of this year to next December and they expect the group to return to profit this year too.

If so, ordinary payments should start up again with a small interim with the half yearly figures normally released in October.

There is again no dividend of any sort for 1976, which means that shareholders have gone without since the 1p gross interim payment announced in September, 1974. Evered cut its pre-tax losses from £197,000 to £133,000 in the first six months and for the full year the drop was from losses of £458,392 to £150,310. The fall looks less exciting after an extraordinary item of £133,167, the terminal costs on selling the controls interests to Concentric, but the disposal stemmed big trading losses. Sir Timothy Harford is chairman.

"Our position has steadily strengthened throughout the year... We have substantial liquid resources for deployment."

Sir Lindsay Alexander, Chairman of Ocean Transport & Trading Limited.

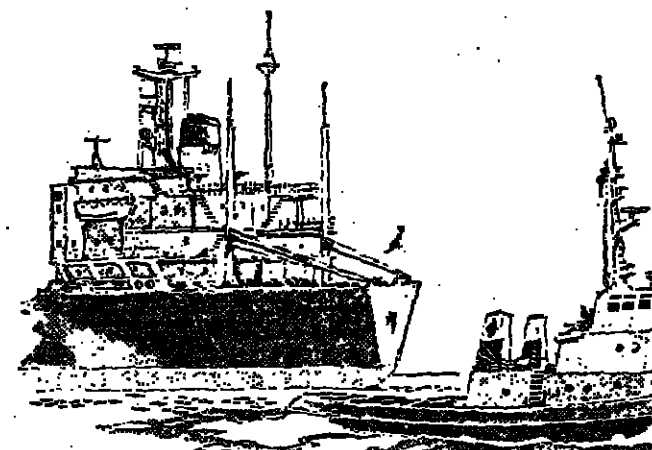
In spite of the stagnant economic conditions worldwide, we have had a satisfactory year's trading and great credit must be given to our employees on this account. We have good

The strength and efficiency of OCL will enable it to maintain its growth in the future.

1976 RESULTS Pre-tax profits of £41m are 82.5% higher than in 1975.

Both our West African trade and Overseas Containers Limited improved materially on their prospects and across the whole spectrum of our operations nearly everything went right.

FINANCE Our position has steadily strengthened throughout the year and we now have available substantial liquid resources for deployment. Our shipbuilding plans have been delayed for a variety of reasons. But the shipbuilding market has not moved against us, and we are in the latter stages of negotiation for a substantial further investment in new tonnage.

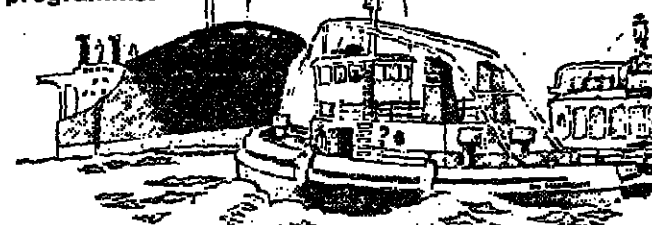


Blue Funnel Bulkships had a good year with bulk carriers, while Cory Ship Towage traded most efficiently.

GENERAL OUTLOOK We are still predominantly a large-scale shipping company, so our broad future has to be seen against the backdrop of the prosperity of world trade in general, and of UK trade in particular. But in recent years we have deliberately sought to broaden the base of our trading results. A large part of Blue Funnel Bulkship's activities depend on the growth of world movements in raw materials, whether for consumption or manufacture. Ocean Inchcape is a growing and successful operator in the world marine energy market. A number of the development businesses must be seen in the context of the worldwide exchange of goods, moving by land, sea or air. In summary, without for a moment relaxing our powerful position in liner trading, we are steadily extending into related service and distributive activities.

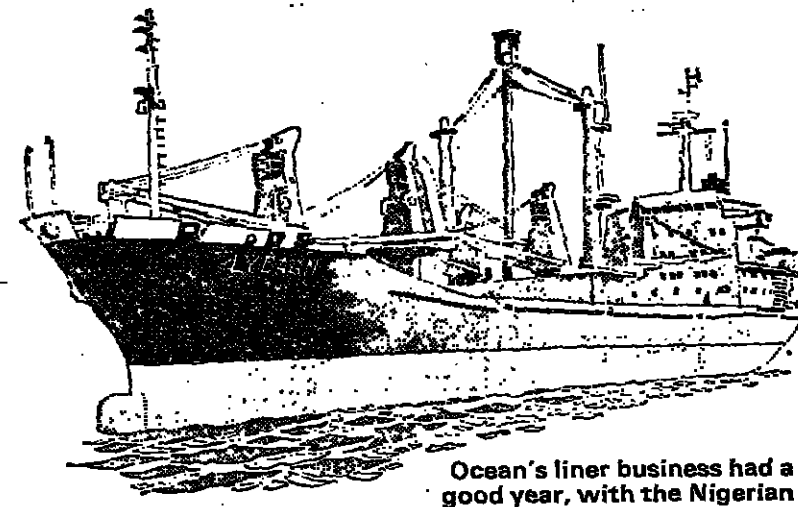
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS The Group's contribution to the UK balance of payments in 1976 was £57m. It invested £11m in foreign currency, leaving a net contribution of £46m. Its share of Associates' foreign currency transactions is substantial.

Ocean Inchcape had a good year in the North Sea and other offshore areas, the results reflecting the previous investment programme.



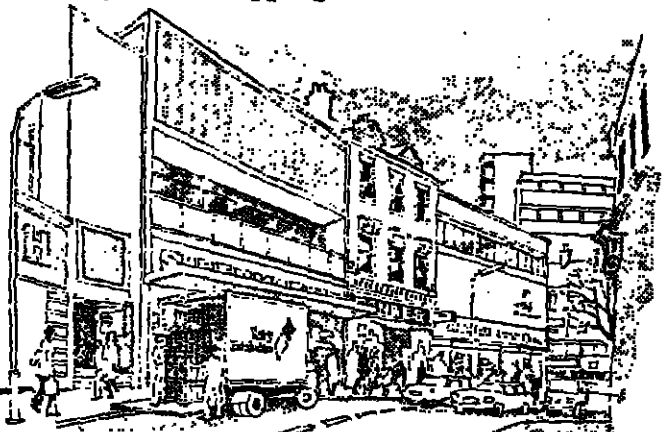
SUMMARY OF RESULTS		
	1976	1975
	£'000	£'000
Turnover	382,725	311,513
Profit before taxation	41,204	22,580
Profit attributable to Stockholders	13,766	13,300
Earnings per stock unit	12.80p	11.52p
Dividends per stock unit (incl. tax credit)	11.28p	10.25p

Copies of the full Report and Review by the Chairman, Sir Lindsay Alexander, can be obtained from the Secretary, Ocean Transport & Trading Ltd., India Buildings, Liverpool, L2 0RB.



Ocean's liner business had a good year, with the Nigerian trades remaining buoyant and the UK/Jeddah service giving promising results.

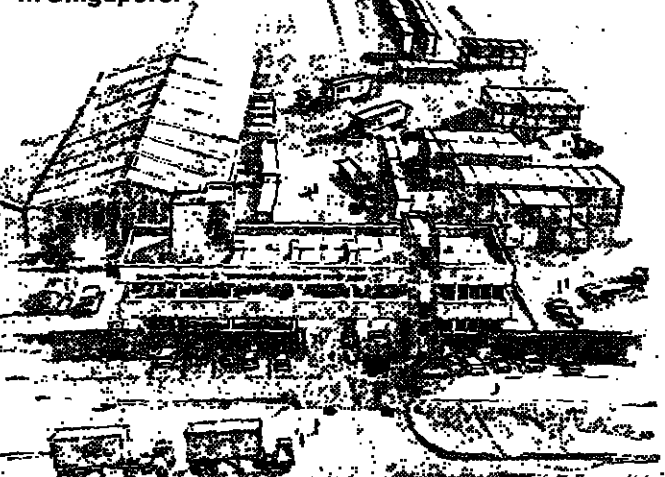
This immensely broad field is likely to grow as world trade expands; bound to grow more that distribution is a major element of the cost of their goods; and bound to offer unusual opportunity to close, yet flexible management, such as we have demonstrated over many years in cargo liner shipping.



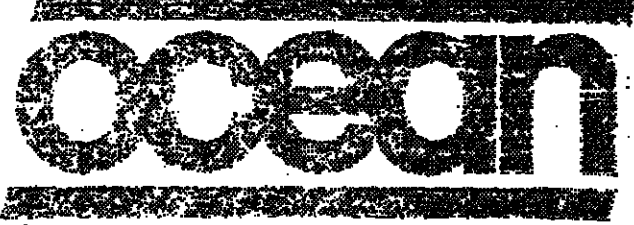
Cory Distribution continued its encouraging progress in High Street distribution, recording a significant increase in volume.

PROSPECTS FOR 1977 The year has begun satisfactorily, though there have been operational setbacks in our liner trades to Nigeria. We expect the slow recovery from recession to continue worldwide. I expect 1977 to show a further useful improvement in our pre-tax profits.

Warehousing and Transportation of Straits Steamship (59%) had a successful trading year in Singapore.



The wide world of



Ocean Transport & Trading Limited

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Turnover . Profit . Capitalisation
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companies £5.00 from bookshops,
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 \S Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

[illegible]

Local Government, Public & Educational Appointments

DUNCAN OF JORDANSTONE COLLEGE OF ART AND THE UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE POST OF DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Department of Town and Regional Planning, which together with the Department of Architecture in the College and the Department of Geography in the University, comprises the University Faculty of Environmental Studies. The four-year undergraduate course in Planning is fully recognised by the R.T.P. and is the subject of honours degree awards by the University.

The successful candidate will be required to take charge of the course and applicants should be members of the Royal Town Planning Institute and hold a degree or diploma in Town Planning.

Permission to engage in private practice is granted to members of College staff and the post carries a salary of £9,180 per annum.

Further particulars and forms of application may be obtained from the SECRETARY, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Perth Road, Dundee DD1 4BT. (Telephone 22261, Ext. 6), to whom completed applications should be returned before 31st May, 1977.

University of Southampton DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Applications are invited from qualified social workers for the post of Social Worker in General Practice. The post is part of a team of social workers working in the community, providing a range of services to the general public. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in social work and to be a member of the Social Work Register.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, Department of Social Work, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 4NH. Tel: 0703 544444.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD CAREERS ADVISOR

Applications are invited for the post of Careers Advisor. The post is part of a team of careers advisors working in the University, providing a range of services to students and staff. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in careers advice and to be a member of the British Association of Careers Development Officers.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, Department of Careers, University of Oxford, Oxford OX1 2JD. Tel: 01865 275444.

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

HAMPSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY CHIEF CONSTABLE

£12,543-£13,425

Applications are invited from serving Police Officers for the post of Chief Constable of Hampshire, which will become vacant on 27th June, 1977, on the retirement of Sir Douglas Osmond, C.B.E., Q.P.M. The Police Area has a population of 1.8 million and covers the 1,600 square miles of the counties of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The Force has 12 divisions (including Headquarters and Traffic) and an authorised strength of 2,935 officers and 863 civilians.

Conditions of Service include a rent allowance of up to £1,108 per annum and an official car will be provided. Removal expenses will be paid.

Application forms may be obtained from the undersigned and must be returned by 12th May, 1977.

Telephone enquiries to: Winchester 4411, Ext. 208.

L. K. Robinson, Esq., Clerk of the Police Authority, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire SO2 2UL.



University of Bristol FACULTY OF ENGINEERING LECTURER IN ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS

Applications are invited from qualified engineers for the post of Lecturer in Engineering Mathematics. The post is part of a team of lecturers working in the Faculty of Engineering, providing a range of services to students and staff. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in engineering mathematics and to be a member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, Faculty of Engineering, University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 1RJ. Tel: 0274 308444.

Rothamsted Experimental Station STATISTICIAN

Applications are invited for the post of Statistician. The post is part of a team of statisticians working in the Rothamsted Experimental Station, providing a range of services to the station and the public. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in statistics and to be a member of the Royal Statistical Society.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Rothamsted, Bucks. MK5 2NF. Tel: 0494 444444.

CENTRE FOR INFORMATION ON LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH

(maintained by grants from the Department of Education & Science, the Scottish Education Department and the Department of Education, Northern Ireland)

DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for this post which will become vacant from January, 1978, on the retirement of the present holder.

Salary within range £9,035-£10,739

Further information and application forms from: THE DIRECTOR, CILT, 20 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE, LONDON, SW1V 5AP. Closing date for applications: 30 May.

University of Bristol SCHOOL OF EDUCATION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for one of four permanent Research Fellow posts in the Research Unit. Applicants should have an M.A. or equivalent in education and a minimum of five years' experience in research in education. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in research in education and to be a member of the British Educational Research Association.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, School of Education, University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 1RJ. Tel: 0274 308444.

St. Mary's School Wantage, Oxon. HEADSHIP

Applications are invited for the post of Headship. The post is part of a team of headships working in the St. Mary's School, Wantage, Oxford, providing a range of services to the school and the public. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in headship and to be a member of the Association of Heads of Schools.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, St. Mary's School, Wantage, Oxon. OX12 9JL. Tel: 01235 844444.

HOUSING RESEARCH RESEARCH FELLOW £5,456 P.A. INC. (L.G. SCALE) POI POINTS 1-31

The Institute of Housing Research, University of London, is seeking a Research Fellow to carry out a survey of housing conditions in London. The post is part of a team of research fellows working in the Institute, providing a range of services to the Institute and the public. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in housing research and to be a member of the Royal Society.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, Institute of Housing Research, University of London, 1-31. Tel: 01-225 344444.

University of Glasgow LECTURESHIP IN INORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the post of Lectureship in Inorganic Chemistry. The post is part of a team of lecturers working in the University of Glasgow, providing a range of services to students and staff. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in inorganic chemistry and to be a member of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ. Tel: 0437 334444.

University of Nottingham DEPARTMENT OF FINE ART LECTURESHIP IN FINE ART

Applications are invited for the post of Lectureship in Fine Art. The post is part of a team of lecturers working in the Department of Fine Art, University of Nottingham, providing a range of services to students and staff. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in fine art and to be a member of the Royal Society of Arts.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, Department of Fine Art, University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Tel: 0522 334444.

University of Nottingham MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND LANGUAGE CENTRE RESEARCH OFFICER

Applications are invited for the post of Research Officer. The post is part of a team of research officers working in the Music Department and Language Centre, University of Nottingham, providing a range of services to the department and the public. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in research in music and language and to be a member of the Royal Society.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, Music Department and Language Centre, University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Tel: 0522 334444.

University of St. Andrews THE CHAIR OF BOTANY

Applications are invited for the post of The Chair of Botany. The post is part of a team of chair holders working in the University of St. Andrews, providing a range of services to the university and the public. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in botany and to be a member of the Royal Society.

For further details and application forms, please contact the Secretary, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews KY16 9SS. Tel: 0777 334444.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

NON-SECRETARIAL

nine eleven personnel

OUT & ABOUT RECEPTIONIST

Kensington Estate Agents need a friendly, efficient receptionist to answer the phone and greet visitors. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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PERSONNEL

The British Genius Exhibition, London, 1977. Sales representatives required for the exhibition. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Put your people personality to work for a leading company. Salary £3,500 per annum. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Small expensive gift company needs a greedy girl. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Top job, a leader in its field. Salary £3,600 per annum. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Even the headline is different. Salary £4,000 per annum. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Nice, Andy/Oxford office job at the Regent Street office of an international company. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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required for busy (sometimes hectic) City office with unconventional working conditions. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Interesting and varied role for a student. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Luxury offices, Knightsbridge. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

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nine eleven personnel

TEMP CONTROLLER

Small successful employment agency. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Overseas Nurse (Channel)

Requires someone with a minimum of five years' experience in nursing. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-228 1941.

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Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

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Young Secretary with executive ambitions for P.T. organisation. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-590 0383.

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Enjoy your own office. Look after overseas staff. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-590 0383.

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Handle management appointments and dismissals. Salary £3,300 per annum. Tel: 01-590 0383.

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In the media department. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-590 0383.

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Director of International Co. Salary £4.50 per hour. Tel: 01-590 0383.

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